Antiquarian

AND

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CONTAINING A SERIES OF

ELEGANT VIEWS

OF THE

MOST INTERESTING OBJECTS OF CURIOSITY

IN

Great Britain.

Accompanied with

LETTER-PRESS DESCRIPTIONS.

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J. S. Storer

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Worcester Cathedral.

WORCESTER.

THIS beautiful city, an epitome of the metropolis, and the capital of an extensive district, was known among the Britons by the name of *Caer-Gwyrangon*, which the Romans latinized to *Branonium*. The Saxons named it *Weogorna Ceastre*, whence it was corrupted to *Wirecester*, or *Worcester*.

Its ancient history does not make mention of any particular circumstance, except that it was the residence of the Wiccian viceroys belonging to the kingdom of Mercia. Worcester owed great part of its prosperity, under the Saxon government, to duke Ethelred and his lady Ethelfleda, daughter of Alfred the Great, before the year 900. They gave a charter, by desire of bishop Wærfred, that the city might be improved and fortified with bulwarks for the security of its inhabitants; for this purpose they granted to the church or minster there one half of the royal dues or tolls arising from the market or the street, reserving only the wain-shilling and the seam-penny; which was a duty on wares carried out; one penny each horse-load, and twelve times as much a loaded wain, to the king.

The ancient castle was repaired about this time, and some fortresses erected round it, of which only one, denominated Edgar's tower, remains at the present day.

This city was destroyed by fire in 1041, by Hardicanute, in revenge against the inhabitants, who had killed the collectors of his exorbitant taxes. In 1080 Roger de Montgomery, earl of Shrewsbury, burnt the suburbs and attacked the city; but the citizens, headed by bishop Wulstan, bravely resisted him, killed or took prisoners 5000 men, and obliged the enemy to raise the siege. It was again burnt at different periods, and suffered very materially during the civil wars between the adherents to the houses of York and Lancaster.

This city has been peculiarly remarkable for its loyalty. In 1486 it had nearly suffered the most dreadful calamities, on account of its adherence to Henry VII, during lord Lovel's rebellion. But the sieges of Worcester during the rebellion in the reign of Charles I. will ever place it high in the annals of this country for the unshaken fidelity of its citizens to their king. This loyal attachment has been the cause of several visits to Worcester by the sovereigns of these realms: the last was in 1788, when his majesty king George III. the queen, the duke of York, and the princesses, honoured this city with their presence, the particulars of which are amply detailed in Mr. Green's History.

Worcester, in its civil capacity, is a county in itself, and is governed by a mayor, recorder, aldermen, common-council, and lesser officers. The GUILDHALL is elegant and magnificent, and was built in 1720. Here are held the assizes and sessions for the county of Worcester and

Worcester Cathedral, &c from the Banks of the Severn.

the city. In the great council-chamber is an excellent whole-length portrait of his present majesty, in a richly-ornamented frame, placed on a pediment of white marble, sculptured with oak-leaves and acorns, within which is inscribed, in gold letters—"HIS MAJESTY GEORGE III. MOST GRACIOUSLY CONDESCENDED TO HONOUR WITH HIS PRESENCE THE CORPORATION OF WORCESTER, IN THIS HALL, AUGUST 8, 1788." This room is ornamented with twelve chandeliers.

There are nine parish churches within the liberties of the city, and two without. St. HELEN'S is a rectory in the gift of the bishop: this fabric is ancient and venerable, and contains eight bells, inscribed to the honour of queen Anne, her battles, and generals.

St. ANDREW'S church has a spire, which is esteemed a great curiosity in architecture, and supposed to be the highest belonging to any parish church in England, being, with the tower, 245 feet six inches in height from the ground. The other churches contain nothing very remarkable relative to antiquity or curiosity.—Here are also several meeting-houses for dissenters of different persuasions.

The city has many charities for the relief of the indigent, aged, and diseased, of which the INFIRMARY and HOUSE OF INDUSTRY claim pre-eminence. Here are also two places of confinement for delinquents; the CITY GAOL, formerly part of the Grey Friars monastery, the ancient chapel of which is still standing; and the

COUNTY GAOL, which has been greatly improved and enlarged.

The BRIDGE, an elegant structure of stone over the Severn, was built under the direction of Mr. Gwynne, and consists of five semicircular arches. The first stone was laid by the earl of Coventry on the 25th day of July 1771, and the whole completed in 1780. To make the approaches to the city correspond with the elegance of the bridge, the avenues on either side have been laid open to a very commodious extent, and a handsome street, which derives its name from its vicinity to the bridge, has been built, thereby connecting the Broad Street and others with this important access to the city. Among the sculptured ornaments on the outside are, the head of Sabrina, over the centre arch, northward; and the city arms southward. At the west end are two very ornamental toll-houses. The tolls and custom of the river, and repairs of the bridge and quays, were very anciently put under the care of the water-bailiff, an officer annually appointed. No person can be arrested, or holden to bail, on the river within the liberties of the city, without the officer taking the water bailiff to protect him in his duty.

The view of the city of Worcester from the banks of the Severn is peculiarly pleasing. In the fore-ground the bridge presents itself, with the craft sailing along the river in rotary motion: the top of the china manufactory on the eastern shore, terminated by St. Andrew's spire and the

The Prothern entrance to the Cloisters of Worcester Cathedral &c.

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lofty turrets of the cathedral, form at once an assemblage of objects venerable and picturesque.

The THEATRE, on which Mrs. Siddons first displayed her abilities; and the PUBLIC SUBSCRIPTION LIBRARY, BALLS, ASSEMBLIES, &c. are sources of amusement for the fashionable classes of Worcester.

Having given an epitome of the history of Worcester, we subjoin that it is at present one of the most pleasant, elegant, and flourishing cities in the united kingdom. The ROYAL CHINA MANUFACTORY is a constant source of employment to numerous hands; and here are also very considerable MANUFACTORIES OF CARPETS, DISTILLERIES, &c. The HOP-MARKET, during the season, is very plentiful and profitable. Here are also hackney-coaches and chairs, as well as various conveyances down the river Severn, on the banks of which the city is situated, which answers every purpose of commercial intercourse with the other parts of the country.

Edgar's tower, as we have before observed, is the only remain of the ancient castle, and is supposed to have been built originally by king Ethelred II. surnamed the Unready, in 1005; but has been considerably altered since that period. It is called EDGAR'S TOWER on account of the statues of that monarch and his two queens, Elfleda and Elfrida, being placed on the eastern front.

On the opposite side there is a remarkable bust, very well finished, representing a monk, in a bending posture, supporting himself with his left hand, and holding his

right towards his breast. Here is also a well-executed bust of George II., underneath which is written, in gold letters—"GEORGIUS SECUNDUS."

It appears that there was a church in Worcester as early as the times of the Britons; but it did not assume the privileges of a cathedral till A. D. 680, when Ethelred, king of Mercia, placed Bosel in the episcopal chair. The church was at that time dedicated to St. Peter.

The first mention of St. Mary's minster occurs in a charter of king Ethelbald, A. D. 743, and it is supposed to have been a new foundation, occasioned by the liberality of abbess Æthelburga. In 983 bishop Oswald, the great patron of the monks, completed the building of a new and more stately cathedral, in which he placed no less than twenty-eight altars. This structure, however, felt the cruel ravages of the soldiers of Hardicanute; and the alterations in architecture by the Normans caused another revolution in the fabric.

St. Wulstan, bishop of the see at that time, laid the foundation of the present cathedral, A. D. 1084, in a style of great magnificence. It was burnt in 1202, and repaired and consecrated in the year 1218, in the presence of Henry III. and his court.

In 1224 the church was enlarged by bishop Blois, who added the west front. The great tower was finished in 1374, and is one hundred and sixty-two feet high from the cross aisle. Its external embellishments are exceeded by

Stone Pulpit, Worcester Cathedral.

none in the kingdom: the series of tabernacle-work which surrounds the upper stage is in the most perfect style of Gothic or English architecture, and is terminated by four handsome pinnacles of open-work. The figures surrounding the tower are supposed to be those of Edward III. and bishops Nicholas de Ely, and William de Lynne, on the east side: on the south, Henry III. bishop Blois, and another bishop; on the west, a king and two bishops, and on the north, facing the city, the Virgin and Child, St Oswald, and St. Wulstan.

This cathedral varies in the several styles of architecture, during the times of its benefactors; but it is built in the form of a patriarchal cross, similar to the collegiate church at Brussels, and makes a noble appearance, taken in every direction.

There have been 100 bishops from the foundation of the see. The diocese formerly contained Worcestershire, Glocestershire, and half Warwickshire; but was abridged, when Glocester was erected into a bishopric by Henry VIII. It has at present ecclesiastical jurisdiction over 241 parishes in the counties of Worcester and Warwick, by a bishop, dean, archdeacon, chancellor, ten prebendaries, and subordinate clergy and officers.

Among other curiosities within the cathedral is a stone pulpit, of an octagon figure, most elegantly carved, in the English style. The front pannels represent the hieroglyphics of the Four Gospels; on the dies of the base are

the arms of England and the see of Worcester.—"These appropriate decorations," says Mr. Green, "illustrate the purposes of the structure in the most comprehensive manner; the old and the new law are exemplified and combined, to indicate the system of the Christian religion; the imperial insignia denote the source of the temporal government of the church, and the whole referring to the Divine Power for guidance and protection, is beautifully indicated by the eye of Providence placed over the series of emblems in each compartment. The New Jerusalem, as described in the Revelations, and represented on the plane of the inside of the pulpit, may be considered as the climax of the whole composition, inasmuch as it is the object to which all our views should be directed."

The canopy is well designed; the festooned drapery and embroidery is formed at the angles by a cord from beneath, and surmounted by a riband with which it is encompassed. The whole forms the most chaste species of this kind that can be met with. It is ascended by stone steps from the north aisle, the supports of which are finely carved.

King John, upon his visiting Worcester in 1207, after having paid his devotions at the tomb of St. Wulstan, and having bestowed on the prior and convent several estates, gave 100 marks to repair their cloister, which, with the monastery, had lately been burnt down.

Chapter House, Norwich Cathedral.

The present cloister was erected in 1372, and is in length eastward 125 feet; the south, west, and north sides 120 feet in length; and the width of the whole sixteen feet. The vaulted roof is adorned with a profusion of sculptures; those more particularly to be noticed are in the south cloister, where the regal genealogy of Israel and Judah is arranged. It commences at the west end; on the keystone of the first arch is a figure, with a branch issuing from his bowels, supposed to be Jesse. The next keystone exhibits David, with his harp, succeeded on the other keystones to the centre of the arcade, where is a group of figures, representing Samuel anointing David. From the east end is a genealogical series of the kings of Israel, each holding a scroll, supposed formerly to contain their several names. The entrance to the cloister is on the south side of the cathedral. The door by which the cloisters are entered from College Green is of Norman architecture, and undoubtedly coeval with the mother church founded by St. Wulstan.

On the east side of the cloister is the chapter-house. Its form is a decagon, fifty-eight feet in diameter, and in height forty-five feet. Its roof is supported by a fine round umbilical pillar, issuing from the centre. This building is coeval in age with the cloisters, and is at present appropriated as a council-room and a library for the use of the church. Here are preserved a valuable collection of printed books, and many manuscripts upon canon law, comprised in 251 volumes.

Godiva, wife of Leofric duke of Mercia, upon the death of her husband in 1057, among other presents which she made to the church of Worcester, to obtain their consent that she should hold possessions during her life, which Leofric had promised to restore to the monks at his decease, gave them a library. A regular establishment of this nature did not, however, take place till the prelacy of bishop Carpenter, in 1461, when he erected a library in the chapel of the charnel-house, and endowed it to the value of £10 *per annum*, to maintain a librarian. From this place the library was removed in 1841, to its present situation.

Under the choir of the cathedral is the crypt, a very accurate plan of which is given in Green's Antiquities of Worcester. These subterraneous cavities are considered as clear evidences of the great antiquity of the cathedrals in which they are found: it has likewise been remarked that they are discovered in the most select situations in our ancient churches; from which it may be inferred that their uses were eminently sacred. In the primitive times of Christianity, places of the most retired privacy were resorted to for the purposes of worship; and "caves and dens of the earth" were the gloomy witnesses to the devotion of the first Christians. As memorials of these subterraneous sanctuaries, it has been conjectured many of our cathedrals have these crypts, or vaults, under their choirs. The crypt of Worcester cathedral has an aisle

Edgars Tower, Worcester.

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on each side of its area, and on its southern extremity is a compartment, supposed to have been a sepulchral chapel to the ancient earls of Gloucester. The roof of the area is supported by five rows of columns, which terminate in a semicircular form at the eastern end: the side aisles have three rows each, which, including those in the sepulchral chapel, make the entire number of columns 142. The crypt is so impervious to the light of day, that, without considerable pains to illuminate it, only an imperfect view can be obtained.

The tomb of king John, supposed to be the most ancient in England of the lineal ancestors of his present majesty from William I. is situated near the altar; on it is a figure of the defunct crowned, on which was written, "JOHANNES REX ANGLIÆ," now defaced. The right hand holds a sceptre; in the left a sword lying by him, the point of which is received in the mouth of a couchant lion at his feet. The figure is as large as life. On each side of him are cumbent images of bishops Oswald and Wulstan, in smaller size, each carved in grey marble.

Great doubts had arisen whether this was, or was not, the real place of interment belonging to that monarch. To determine the point, it was proposed, that, when the church was lately repaired, the tomb should be opened, to satisfy every doubt. On Monday, July 17, 1797, the taking down of the tomb was proceeded on in the following manner.

"On the removal of the royal effigy, and the stone slab on which it had been laid, and which had been broken in two in some former operation about the tomb, the objects which first presented to view within it, were two partition walls of brick, raised to assist in the support of the superincumbent covering and figure of the king, and to take an equal bearing of their weight with the side and end pannels of the tomb. The spaces between those walls, and between them and the ends of the tomb, were filled up with the rubbish of bricks and mortar. On taking down the pannel at the head and one on each side, and clearing out the rubbish, two strong elm boards originally joined by a batten nailed at each end of them, but which had dropped off and left the boards loose, were next discovered; and, upon their removal, the stone coffin, of which they had formed the covering, containing the entire remains of king John, became visible! The dean and chapter were immediately convened to see the important doubt cleared up; a drawing was taken on the spot, which was afterwards engraved and published with a pamphlet of no less than eight pages, to announce this astonishing event to the public. The body was found to have been adjusted in the stone coffin precisely in the same form as the figure on the tomb. The skull, instead of being placed with the face in the usual situation, presented the foramen magnum, the opening through which the spinal marrow passes down the vertebræ, turned upwards. The lower part of the os frontis was so much perished, as to have be-

Cloisters of Worcester Cath. Inc.

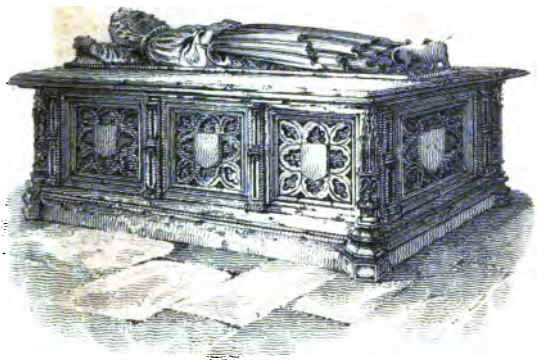
come nearly of an even surface with the bottoms of the sockets of the eyes. The whole of the upper jaw was displaced from the skull, and found near the right elbow: it contained four teeth in very good preservation. The lower jaw was also separated from the skull: there were no teeth in this jaw. Some grey hairs were discernible under the covering of the head. The ulna of the left arm, which had been folded on the body, was found detached from it, and lying obliquely on the breast; the ulna of the right arm lay nearly in its proper place, but the radius of neither arm, nor the bones of either hand, were visible. The bones of the toes were in good preservation, more particularly those of the right foot, on two or three of which the nails were still visible. The rest of the bones, more especially of the lower extremities, were nearly perfect. Some large pieces of mortar were found on and below the abdomen; from which there could be no doubt but the body had been removed from the place of its original sepulture. The body measured five feet six inches and a half. It is somewhat singular, that, after lying there 582 years, the body was not more decayed. John died at Newark, in Nottinghamshire, October 19, 1215. His bowels and heart were buried at Croxton abbey, in Staffordshire; the abbot of which had been his physician, and performed the operation of embalming him.

"The dress in which the body of the king was found appears also to have been similar to that in which his figure is represented on the tomb, excepting the gloves on its

hands, and the crown on its head, which on the skull in the coffin was found to be the celebrated monk's cowl, in which he is recorded to be buried, as a passport through the regions of purgatory. This sacred envelope appeared to have fitted the head very closely, and had been tied or buckled under the chin by straps, parts of which remained. The body was covered by a robe, reaching from the neck nearly to the feet: it had some of its embroidery still remaining near the right knee. It was apparently of crimson damask, and of strong texture: its colour, however, was so totally discharged from the effect of time, that it is but conjecturally it can be said to have been of any but what has now pervaded the whole object, namely a dusky brown. The cuff of the left arm, which had been laid on the breast, remained. In that hand a sword, in a leather scabbard, had been placed as on the tomb, parts of which, much decayed, were found at intervals down the left side of the body, and to the feet, as were also parts of the scabbard, but in a much more perfect state than those of the sword. The legs had on a sort of ornamented covering, which was tied round at the ankles, and extended over the feet, where the toes were visible through its decayed parts. The coffin is of the Higley stone of Worcestershire, white, and chisel-levelled, wholly dissimilar in its kind to either that of the foundation of the tomb, its pannels, covering, or the figure of the king. A very considerable fracture runs through it in an oblique direction, one foot six inches from the left shoulder, to

The Crypt Worcester Cathedral

two feet nine inches from the right. The coffin is laid upon the pavement of the choir, without being let into it. Its original covering is that stone out of which the effigy of the king is sculptured, and now lying on the tomb, the shape of which is exactly correspondent with that of the stone coffin, and its extreme dimensions strictly proportionate to its purpose.



"The impatience of the multitude to view the royal remains, so unexpectedly found, became so ungovernable, as to make it necessary to close up the object of their curiosity on the evening of the next day, after it had been laid open to the view of some thousands of spectators. The tomb of king John was therefore completed restored, and finally closed, in the same state as before."

N. View of St. Malvern Abbey Church, Worcestershire.

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MALVERN ABBEY,

WORCESTERSHIRE.

GREAT Malvern, situated in the lower division of the hundred of Pershore, in the county of Worcester, was, in the Saxon times, a wilderness thick set with trees; to which some monks, who aimed at a character of superior sanctity, withdrew from the priory of Worcester, and there became hermits. Their number having soon increased to 300, they formed themselves into a society, agreed to live according to the order of St. Benedict, and elected Aldwin, one of their fraternity, to be superior. Thus was this Abbey founded about the sixteenth of William the Conqueror, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary.

Before his death, Aldwin endowed it with large possessions. Henry I. likewise was a very great benefactor; not only by confirming to the fraternity many lands, but granted them also considerable privileges and immunities. Gislebert, abbot of Westminster, with consent of his convent, assigned to them several manors and estates, and of course this monastery was considered as, in its origin, a cell to the abbey of Westminster, though at length it became a free abbey. Among other benefactors were Henry III. Edward I. Gilbert de Clare, earl of Gloucester; Osborn and Richard Fitzpontz; Wolstan, prior of Worcester; Guy Fitz-Holgod; Roger de Chaundos; Walter de Maydeston, &c. &c.

At the time of the dissolution, its revenues were valued at £308 : 1 : 5¼. according to Dugdale; but according to Speed at £375 : 0 : 6½.

In the thirty-sixth year of Henry VIII. this Abbey was granted to William Pinnocke, who alienated it to John Knottesford, serjeant at arms, whose daughter Anne married William Savage, of the family of that name at Rock Savage, Cheshire; from whom, by inheritance, it came to Thomas Savage, of Elmley Castle, Worcestershire. His descendant (by a female), Thomas Byrche Savage, sold the demesne, about the year 1774, to James Oliver, of Worcester; the site of the old Abbey having been sold a few years before.

Of the Abbey, the part that is still standing makes a handsome appearance. The gateway is a most beautiful specimen of the Gothic style; and, considering its antiquity, is remarkable for retaining, in many places, its original freshness. The external appearance of the church, on the north side, is very striking, and at the same time light and pleasing. It was purchased, by the inhabitants, of John Knottesford, before mentioned, and has ever since been deemed the parochial church. It is 171 feet in length, 63 in breadth; and the height of the nave is 63 feet. The interior of the church is a mixture of the Saxon and Gothic styles; and from its exquisitely ornamented roof, and other emblazonments, the beholder may conceive a faint idea of its pristine beauty. The nave is in the Saxon style; and the choir and tower are

N.E. View of Malvern Abbey Church, Worcestershire.

in the florid Gothic. The altar is adorned with burnt tiles, which are highly glazed, and ornamented with mottoes, devices, and armorial bearings. It had formerly a great number of windows, curiously painted; but only two of these remain perfect: they are whole-length portraits of prince Arthur, son of Henry VII. and sir Reginald Bray, the famous architect of Henry VIIth's chapel at Westminster, and of a chapel at Windsor, still called by his name.

It may not be unpleasing to the reader to be told what the subjects were of some of the principal of those beautiful paintings which once adorned this venerable pile. The following particulars are selected from among a great number of others less generally interesting, given in an account taken in the reign of Charles I. by Mr. William Habington; of whose topographical MSS. Dr. Nash made a very judicious and advantageous use, in the composition of his History of Worcestershire.

The upper part of the great east window was divided into twelve compartments, in which were painted the twelve apostles; the lower part into sixteen divisions, in which were delineated some of the most prominent features of the life of Our Saviour; viz. his riding on an ass; celebrating the passover with his disciples, washing their feet; his agony in the garden; his being betrayed by Judas, brought bound before Pilate, sent to Herod, condemned, clothed with purple, scourged, bearing his cross, nailed to the cross, his death; his body taken down from the cross,

his burial, the stone of the sepulchre sealed; the women bringing spices; his resurrection; his appearance to Mary Magdalene; his appearance at the sea of Tiberias, to his disciples at Emmaüs; his ascension; descent of the Holy Ghost.

On the south side of the choir, in the first window from the east, were represented the Magi offering their gifts; above, the arms of Henry VII. and his son Arthur prince of Wales.

In the north side of the nave are six windows, with six compartments in each. In the first, nearest the west end, was represented Christ crucified, with St. John supporting the fainting Virgin, and the centurion confessing Jesus to be the Christ; below, the three Marys, supported by St. Philip, St. Simon, and St. Jude.

In the south side are likewise six windows, of the same size and shape, in which were painted many histories of the Old and New Testament. In the first, second, third, and fourth compartments of the first window were several histories, from the creation, to the expulsion of Adam from Paradise. In the first four compartments of the second window were the history of Noah, and of the tower of Babel. In the first four compartments of the third window were the histories of Abraham, Lot, Isaac, Jacob, and Esau. In the first four compartments of the fourth window was the history of Joseph. The fifth window contained the history of Moses and the Israelites in Egypt and the wilderness. In the sixth window Aaron in his priest's dress, and Moses with his glorified countenance.

The Gate of St. Kalocan Abbey, Worcestershire.

woman with

In the great west window were fourteen compartments representing the resurrection, and Christ coming to judge the world; the Virgin Mary, and saints.

In a little window on the south side of the nave of the church, were the arms of Braci; and above it, a monk kneeling, with various figures of an unclean spirit; in the lower part, a devil vomiting out an infant, which was received by other devils, and an angel praying for it.

In the north aisle were painted in five windows various histories from the New Testament; twelve stories in each window. In the first, the espousals of Joachim and Anne; the angel appearing to Joachim. In the second, the angel appearing to the Virgin Mary; Mary saluting Elizabeth; the birth of Christ, presentation in the temple; the Magi inquiring for him and offering their gifts; and returning into their own country; the angel appearing to Joseph; Joseph and Mary fleeing into Egypt; murder of the innocents; Christ baptized by John. In the third, Christ turning water into wine at the marriage in Cana of Galilee; healing a paralytic; casting out a devil, tempted by the devil, placed on a pinnacle of the temple, carried to a high mountain and shown the glories of the world; the Pool of Bethesda. In the fourth window, Christ walking upon the sea, casting out a devil, making clay, and opening the eyes of the blind, curing a fever, and the woman with the issue of blood. In the fifth window, nothing remained at that time but the crucifixion.

This aisle leads to a chapel dedicated to our Lord, and

called Jesus Chapel, lighted by two windows. In the large one to the north are twelve compartments; six above, and six below. In the upper were represented the Trinity crowning the Virgin; a chorus of angels and saints praising God on various instruments; Christ recieved into heaven; Michael fighting with the devil; our Saviour bringing Adam and Eve out of hell.

The floor and walls of the choir were paved and decorated with square bricks, painted with the arms of England, of the abbey of Westminster, and of various benefactors.

Near the chancel end of the south aisle, under the window, is a stone figure of a knight, completely armed; in his right hand a battle-axe, and in his left a round target, having the appearance of great antiquity. It has been supposed to represent a person of the name of John Corbet.

An old grave-stone of Walcher, the second prior of this house, which now forms a part of the pavement of the nave, was found, in May 1711, by Mrs. Savage's servants, who were digging in her garden, with the date of 1135, and bearing this inscription:

"PHILOSOPHVS DIGNVS BONVS ASTROLOGVS, LOTHERINGVS,
VIR PIVS AC HVMILIS, MONACHVS, PRIOR HVJVS OVILIS,
HIC IACET IN CISTA, GEOMETRICVS AC ABACISTA,
DOCTOR WALCHERVS; FLET PLEBS DOLET VNDIQVE CLERVS;
HVIC LVX PRIMA MORI DEDIT OCTOBRIS SENIORI;
VIVAT UT IN CŒLIS EXORET QVISQVE FIDELIS.
MCXXXV."

Drawn and engraved by J. Greig for the Antiquarian and Topographical Cabinet.

Interior of Malvern Abbey Church, Worcestershire.

Published for the Proprietors, Jan. 1, 1810, by W. Clarke, Bond Street.

On a stone of the Lygon family:

"Stay, passenger, and from this dusty urne,
Both what I was, and what thou must be, learne:
Grace, virtue, beauty, had no privilege,
That everlasting statute to abridge,
'That all must dye:' then, gentle friend, with care,
In life, for death and happiness prepare."

A gentleman, who viewed this Church in 1788, has given us a melancholy account of the shameful state of defilement and neglect in which he then found the building. On the north side of the church was a play-ground for boys, whose recreation consisted in throwing stones at the numerous windows, all full (as we have observed) of the finest stained glass; and adjoining this play-ground was a kennel of hounds, whose hideous yells filled up at intervals (service-time, or otherwise) the cry of the unrestrained juvenile assailants. In the interior of the Church, on the eastern wall of Jesus Chapel, was stuck up a large pigeon-house belonging to the vicar, then the rev. Mr. Philips, who enjoyed the vicarage near fifty years, and died May 1801.

As an excuse for the incumbent, it has been said, that the profits of the living are small; and that there is no sufficient fund for preserving the place in good repair; the natural consequence of which is its present state of impending ruin. The walls and floors are dreadfully damp, and parts of the Church are sometimes flooded.

The ivy is suffered to grow within the building; at least, it has pierced through the interstices formed by the tracery of the eastern window, and covers a large portion of the eastern end of the fabric. It has, in fact, been truly said, that the Church is "in a state unfit for the parishioners, disgraceful to the parish, and will soon be beyond the power of repair."

The present vicar, Mr. Graves (son, we believe, of the late venerable rector of Claverton), has made endeavours to raise a subscription from the neighbouring gentry, and from visitors in the summer, for repairing the Church; but the attempt has never succeeded to any tolerable extent. The depredations committed on the painted windows, drew forth the following poetical complaint from Dr. Booker. (See "MALVERN; a descriptive and historical Poem.")

"What marvel, that a scene so rich, so grand,
Should admiration e'en in royal breasts
Awaken?—Admiration, that inspir'd
Of old, for yonder venerable pile,
Devotion, and munificence, and zeal,
To rear those richly-tinted windows, now,
Alas! with ivy, and with weedy moss
Obtrusive, hung: some, by the gusty wind,
Or striplings—thoughtless in their boyish sports—
Fractur'd, and heedlessly, by hand uncouth,
With ill-according workmanship repair'd.
Such—once their grandeur—they, in sequence, told

An Ancient Tomb in Malvern Abbey Church Worcestershire

Man's bliss primeval and too speedy fall;
His various fortunes in Time's earliest age,
Recorded in Jehovah's ancient tome;
Actions mysterious wrought in Holy Land.
Nor less mysterious those, by God's own Son
In later time perform'd, depicted there:
His restoration of the sick and lame
To health and soundness,—of the deaf and blind
To hearing and to sight—the dead to life!
His conquest o'er grim Death, by dying gain'd;
And o'er a monster far more dire than Death—
Soul-damning Sin!—These (with eventful truths
Countless, and of concernment great to man,
From Time's beginning to its last dread hour)
In order due, magnificently there
Were pictur'd—once effulgent as the sun,
Now, like the moon obscur'd, but dimly seen.
"Restore, O Piety of modern times!
Restore them to their pride. What ancient zeal,
The generous zeal of better days bestow'd,
At least preserve, and let no Ruin's tooth
Insatiate prey on pearls. Away, away,
With all that is unseemly from God's house:
Endure not there what would be noisome deem'd
Within your own; nor let the observant Muse,
Who so much all around sees fit for praise,
There only censure, where not e'en the sound
Of Censure's voice should pain the pious ear.

* * * * * *

"How lost to Piety, to Virtue lost,
Who, with superfluous pageantry and pomp,
Adorn their mansions, and neglect their God!
Their own a palace—His, the Lord of all,
Damp, fetid, loathsome, a sepulchral cave."

The Litchfield MS. concerning Malvern, states, that the situation was so much admired by Henry VII. his queen, and their two sons, prince Arthur and prince Henry, as to induce them to beautify the Church with stained glass windows to a degree that made it one of the greatest ornaments of the nation. "Those windows," says the MS. "form a mirror, wherein we may see how to believe, live, and die." It then enumerates the great multiplicity of sacred objects delineated: one of which, a representation of the day of judgment, is said not to have been inferior to the paintings of Michael Angelo.

Engraved by J. Pugh for the Antiquarian & Topographical Cabinet from a Drawing by the Late [illegible]

Widemarsh Gate, Hereford.

Published by the Proprietors by W. Clarke, Pall Mall, [illegible] & J. Compton, [illegible] Strand, Westminster.

WIDE MARSH GATE,

HEREFORD.

THE city of Hereford was formerly surrounded with a deep ditch and broad walls; the latter are now standing, but greatly injured by the ravages of time. It had six noble ports or gates, concerning which Leland, in his Itinerary, writes thus: "There be in the walles of Hereford six gates—Wye Gate, Frere Gate, standeth west, soe called of the Grey Fryers' house standinge without; Inni Gate, standinge towards west-south-west; Wide Marsh Gate, flat north (Wide Marsh is a marsh ground a little without the suburbe); Bishop's Street Gate, north-east; St. Andrew's Gate, by east, so called of St. Andrew's parish, in the suburbes without this gate. There is a little brooke that cometh about five miles by west from Hereford, and so circuitt the ditches of Hereford town walles, where it is not defended by the Wye, and goeth downe, leavinge the castle on the right hand, and there drivinge two milles goeth into Wye a flyte shoote beneath Wye bridge, and hard beneath the castle. The walles and gates of Hereford be right well maintained by the burgesses of the towne."

With a view to improving the entrance into the city, or rather to gratify the caprice of persons in authority,

most of the gates have been taken down; amongst them Wide Marsh Gate. Thus the venerable aspect of the city of Hereford has suffered irreparable injury, whilst the acquisition of elegance, to compensate the loss of these ancient bulwarks, is looked for in vain.

The only gate now remaining is Bye Street Gate, greatly mutilated, and now used as a prison.

Cross of the Black Friars Hereford.

THE CROSS OF THE BLACK FRIARS,

HEREFORD.

On the north side of the city of Hereford are the remains of the house of the Black Friars, which was erected in the reign of Edward III. who himself was present at the dedication of the church, together with his son Edward the Black Prince, several archbishops, and great numbers of the nobility and gentry.

This Friary became exceedingly flourishing in a very short period; and many persons of distinction were buried here. On the dissolution, the site and buildings were bestowed on John Scudamore of Wilton, and William Wygmore of Shoddon, esqrs.; but in the reign of Elizabeth this place became the property of the Coningsby family, from whom the estate has descended to the present earl of Essex.

The principal remains of this establishment are some offices in a ruinous state, and the cross or stone pulpit, which we have represented. This is a hexagon open on each side, and surrounded by a flight of six steps decreasing in length as they ascend. In the centre is a base of the same figure, with two arches on each side supporting the shaft of the cross. A number of ramifications from the shaft form the groining of the roof: passing through which

it appears above in a very ruinous state. The upper part is embattled, and each angle supported by a buttress. This pulpit was most probably surrounded by cloisters, where the people might, under cover, attend to the sermons delivered from it; as the Black Friars were extremely popular, and greatly affected preaching to the multitude from these kind of erections.

In the year 1614, sir Thomas Coningsby, near the site of this Friary, and evidently with part of its materials, erected an hospital for the reception of the "disabled soldier and the superannuated faithful servant." This edifice was built in the form of a quadrangle, and consisted of twelve apartments, a chapel, hall, and other necessary conveniences.

Drawn by Mr. G. Hawkins, Engd. by J. Hawkins, Published 1. Dec. 1816.

MONUMENT OF BISHOP CANTILUPE IN HEREFORD CATHEDRAL.

THOMAS de CANDILUPE, in whose memory this monument was erected, was archdeacon of Stafford, and chancellor both of the university of Oxford and of the realm: he was of noble birth, being the son of William, lord Cantilupe, by Milicent, countess of Evreux. He was consecrated in 1275, and died at Civita Vecchia in 1282; his bones, head and heart, were brought to Hereford to be buried in the cathedral. Pope John XXII. about the year 1310, on account of his great reputation during his life for sanctity and upright conduct, canonized him; and no less than 425 miracles are said to have been performed at his tomb. The reputation which these miracles obtained for the saint, induced the succeeding bishops of Hereford to change their ancient arms, which were those of St. Ethelbert, to the paternal bearings of Cantilupe, and these are still continued to this day. St. Cantilupe was the last Englishman on whom was conferred the honour of canonization; and his tomb, in superstitious times (nay, is so still by the catholics) was regarded with the utmost devotion and respect; and crowds of travellers and pilgrims resorted to it from all parts of the kingdom and of Europe.

MONUMENT OF BISHOP CANTILUPE.

This fine Monument is placed in the north end of the great transcept of the cathedral of Hereford, and is a most beautiful specimen of antique funereal magnificence; it is of free-stone, adorned with exquisite carving, and curious devices; it is an altar monument: the top, or canopy, is supported by a range of short light pillars and beautiful arches; round the bottom part are correspondent arches and pillars in bass-relief; within these arches are effigies curiously executed, representing Knights Templars; of which order bishop Cantilupe was provincial master in this kingdom. In the year 1645, when the city of Hereford was taken by the parliamentary forces, under the command of colonel Birch, this Monument shared the fate of most of the public buildings in the place, being much mutilated, particularly the effigies of the Templars, which surrounded the base; however, enough of its enrichments have been spared to render it a most interesting object to the lover of antiquity.

Engraved & Published by J. Pye from a Drawing by Mr. F. J. A. Morris April 1. 1811

Front of the Shrine of St. Ethelbert in Hereford.

SHRINE OF ST. ETHELBERT,

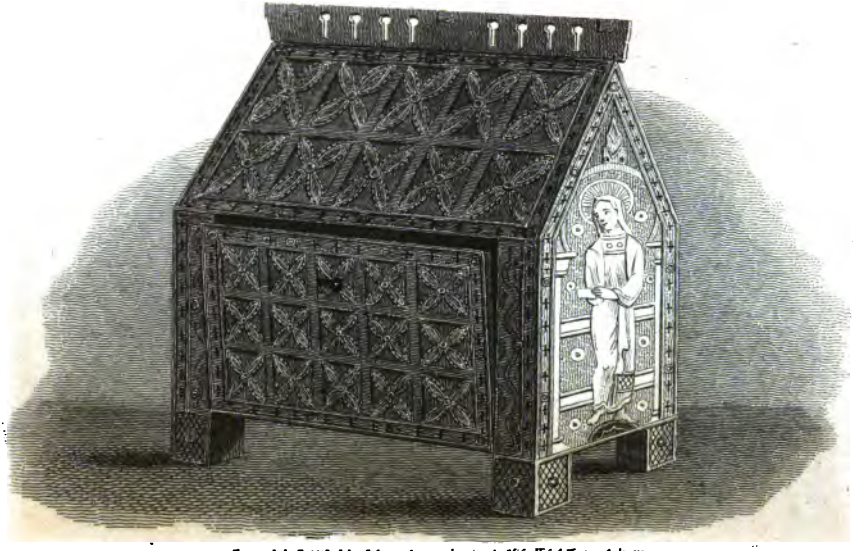
HEREFORD.

ETHELBERT, king of the East Angles, was murdered in the year 792, by Offa, king of the Mercians, whose ambition to join the kingdom of East Anglia to his own, induced him to commit this act of barbarity in unison with the basest treachery. The young prince Ethelbert designing to marry, came to the court of Offa, and demanded his daughter Adelfrida. He was received at first with great marks of affection and esteem; but these flattering appearances were of short duration. Offa, as it is said, by the instigation of his queen, was persuaded to break the most sacred laws of honour and hospitality, by the murder of his guest—immediately after which, he marched an army into East Anglia, and united it, without opposition, to Mercia. Offa was afterwards seized with such tormenting remorse on account of this horrid fact, that he resolved upon a journey to Rome to procure a pardon from the pope: this was easily obtained, upon his promise of being liberal to the churches and monasteries. Among other imposts attendant upon the monarch's engagement was, an annual tax of one penny upon every family in his dominions, for the support of a college of English students at Rome, founded by Ina,

king of the West Saxons. This tax, in process of time, became very burdensome to England, under the title of Peter's Pence; and the popes, pretending it was a tribute that the English paid to St. Peter and his successors, continued the exaction till the abrogating times of Henry VIII.

The curious and very beautiful relic of antiquity which commemorates the assassination above recorded, is formed of oak, very thick and strong, covered with plates of copper, beautifully enamelled in different colours, and handsomely gilt. It is seven inches long, three inches and three eighths broad, and eight inches and a quarter high. The sloping part, or roof of the Shrine, measures three inches in height; the front pannel five inches. It is almost universally regarded as a religious memorial of the death or martyrdom of Ethelbert, king of the East Angles; which took place at Sutton's Walls, near Hereford.

The figures on the principal side of the pyx, have a clear reference to a transaction of this nature; the attitudes of the assassins (cautiously advancing on tiptoe, and pointing silently to their victim, whilst one is in the act of striking off his head), sufficiently mark them as such; the martyr, surprized at his devotions, seems in the act of springing up to meet the hand, which, from the cloud, appears outstretched to receive him. It has been suggested, that this device might relate to some priest or bishop, assassinated during the celebration of



Engraved & Published by J. Storer, from a drawing by Miss H.S.A. Horton, Apl. 1811.

mass; but as mass is not usually celebrated with the head covered, and as the cross on the table is a simple cross, and not a crucifix, which last is generally used in public mass, it appears much more probable that the murder was committed during an act of private devotion; and the dress and crown of the martyr, rather denote a prince, than either priest or bishop.

The design on the upper part, or roof of the shrine, still has a relation to the martyrdom. We there see a sort of bier, on which is extended what we may suppose the body of the martyr; two men are employed in raising it from the ground: it is surrounded by figures, probably intended to represent angels, two of which are scattering incense, and two others, standing behind the bier, seem to point to Heaven. One of them bears a tablet, on which is an inscription.

The figures at each end of the Shrine may, perhaps, represent St. Ethelbert after his beatification; at least the glory round the head would lead one to suppose it; as none of the figures on the front, the assassins, the murdered prince, and the bearers of the bier, have any thing of the sort.

The colours of the enamel are three shades of blue; a green, red, yellow, and white—the figures are gilt; those in the front have the heads in relief.

The back of the Shrine is covered with a Mosaic pattern, of four pointed leaves repeated within square compartments. The back pannel opens downwards, as a

door, and fastens with a lock; on the inside is a plank of wood, on which is painted a red cross, the usual sign of a relic: the plank is much stained with a dark liquid, supposed to have been the blood of the martyr.

This pyx used formerly to stand on the high altar of Hereford cathedral, which is dedicated to St. Ethelbert. At present it is in the possession of the rev. Mr. Russell, one of the canons of the cathedral; and by his permission, the two Drawings were taken—for which, and the foregoing description, we are indebted to Miss H. S. A. Horton, daughter of sir Watts Horton, bart.

Lady's Tower, Goodrich Castle, Herefordshire.

Published by the Proprietors by Longman & Co. Paternoster Row & Harding Pall Mall June 1818.

GOODRICH CASTLE,

HEREFORDSHIRE.

Goodrich Castle stands on an eminence near the south-eastern extremity of the county, and on the western bank of the river Wye, about sixteen miles from Hereford and four from Ross; it was formerly a place of considerable strength and magnitude. The entrance into it is over a small neck of land, supported on each side by a stone wall, near the south-east angle of the Castle; and a small bridge, having one Gothic arch, whose point is extremely acute, and half another, which is circular. The ground upon which the Castle stands forms nearly a square, being about fifty-two yards long and forty-eight wide. The means of defence which this fortress possessed were great and various: it had four large round towers, one at each angle of the walls; it is situated on the summit of a hill, two sides of which are nearly perpendicular; and where the hill does not form a defence, there is a deep ditch twenty yards broad, hewn into the solid rock.

By whom or when this fortress was built is entirely unknown. In the fifth year of the reign of king John it was granted to William Marshall, earl of Pembroke: from the Marshalls it came to William de Valencia,

earl of Pembroke, in right of his wife, who was descended from the Marshalls. In the twenty-second of Edward III. Goodrich Castle was in the possession of Richard Talbot, and in this family it continued till the fourteenth of James I. when it became the property of Henry de Grey, earl of Kent, in right of his wife Elizabeth, second daughter of Gilbert Talbot, the last earl of Shrewsbury: this earl was afterwards created a duke, and dying without male issue, the manor and lordship of Goodrich was sold to Thomas Griffin, esq. vice-admiral of the white, in the possession of whose heir it remained some few years since.

There are considerable remains of this fortress: among the most perfect are to be reckoned the keep, a square building resembling Gondulph's Tower in Rochester Castle, but much less, and the Lady Tower, which we have represented: this tower suffered much during the civil wars, when the Castle was dismantled and rendered untenable.

Clifford Castle, Herefordshire.

CLIFFORD CASTLE,

HEREFORDSHIRE.

CLIFFORD CASTLE, though considerably dilapidated, exhibits some majestic remains, which crown a bold hill, towering above the river Wye. This fortress was erected by William Fitzosborn, first earl of Huntington. It was afterwards held by Ralph de Todeny, and again by Walter, the son of Richard Punt, or Ponce, whose surname was De Clifford, and from him the noble family of the Cliffords, earls of Cumberland, are originally descended. This manor, however, did not long continue in the family, though the younger branches of it flourished in other places. It appears that in the reign of Edward I. John Giffard was in possession, having obtained it by marrying the heiress of Walter Giffard, grandson of Walter de Clifford, abovementioned. At this place was born the celebrated Rosomond, who was the daughter of the last-named Walter de Clifford. She was educated at Godstow nunnery, the religious houses being then the only places of education for young ladies of rank and distinction. Here she was first seen by Henry II. who became violently enamoured, declared his passion, and triumphed over her honour. The king's attachment coming to the knowledge

of his consort, queen Elenor, to avoid the consequences of her jealousy, he caused a curious building to be erected at Woodstock, with arches and winding walls, into whose secret apartments it was impossible for any stranger to penetrate. "An house (according to Stowe) of wonderful workmanship, so that no man or woman could come to her but he that was instructed of the king. The house was named Labyrinthus, or Dædalus work; was wrought like unto a knot in a garden, called a maze." Here this paragon of beauty remained in security for several years, and was frequently visited by the enamoured monarch; but having occasion to leave the kingdom, he entrusted his mistress to the care of a noble knight, whose assiduity was insufficient to secure his lovely charge from the vindictive queen, who had long endeavoured to discover her retreat. It is said that the jealous Elenor perceived her one day sitting at the entrance of her dwelling: alarmed at the approach of the queen, she retired with precipitation, and, in her confusion, let fall a ball of silk, which, entangling with her drapery, unwound itself as she went, and left her rival in possession of the fatal clue.

Engraved by J. Greig for the Antiquarian & Topographical Cabinet, from a Drawing by J. Greig

Longtown Castle, Herefordshire.

LONGTOWN CASTLE,

HEREFORDSHIRE.

Longtown stands in a most secluded and romantic situation, on the banks of the river Munnow, near its junction with the Escle and Olchon, which have their sources not far from each other, and give beauty to the country through which they flow, in a direction from north to south.

In Taylor's Map of Herefordshire, Longtown is marked as the Roman Blestium, most probably from mistaking the place meant by Camden, who fixes that station (though erroneously) at Castle Hen, or Old Castle, on an eminence, between two and three miles to the south, and which is actually in Monmouthshire, though almost insulated by the lands of this county.

The village of Longtown is in the hundred of Ewyas Lacy, in the parish of Cloudock, and has a chapel dedicated to St. Peter, of the value of £16 *per annum*, in the patronage of W. Wilkins, esq. The resident population in this village in 1801 was 768. It is situated seventeen miles in a south-westerly direction from Hereford, in the neighbourhood of the Hatterell hill, or black mountain, on the borders of the county, near Brecknockshire.

Of the Castle, but a portion of what appears to be

the keep remains: it stands on a rising ground, surrounded by a ditch, which is encompassed by a rampart. Its situation is commanding, over the adjoining country, and the prospects generally delightful. History is silent as to the founder of this Castle, and the date of its erection is unknown. Though not extensive, it has the appearance of having been very strong, and probably was used as a place of defence against the incursions of the Welsh.

Engraved & Published by J. Greig, 1st Feb. from a Sketch by W. Farley.

Ewias Harold Church, Herefordshire.

EWIAS HAROLD,

HEREFORDSHIRE.

The church at Ewias Harold is a small but interesting building, and is supposed to have formed a part of the priory, founded by Filius-Harold, first at Dules, in this neighbourhood, and afterwards removed to this place. On an eminence, bounded on the north-east by a small stream which falls into the Dore, was an ancient castle, but now demolished, formerly the head of the lordship of Ewias Harold, which is described by Leland as being "a mile in breadth where it is narrowest, and most in length two miles: it hath goode corne, grasse, and woode." This castle was founded previously to the conquest; and according to the doomesday book, was "refortified by Alured de Marleburgh." Dugdale says, that this fortress was built by William Fitz-Osborne, earl of Hereford, after the conquest: but the statement of Leland is more likely to be the truth: he observes, "the fame goeth, that kynge Harold, had a bastard namyed Harold, and of this Harold, part of Ewis was namyed Ewis Harold. The fame is, that the castell of Map-Herald was buildid of Harold afore he was kynge; and when he overcam the Walsche men, Harold gave this castle to his bastard. Great parte of Mapherald casteell is yet standinge, and a chapelle of Seint

Nicholas in it. Ther was sometyme a parke by the castell: the castle stondythe on a mere hill."—Harold, lord of Ewias, according to Mr. Gough, was son of Ralph, earl of Hereford, and father of Robert, founder of Dore Abbey; but Leland says that the latter was the son of Harold's bastard: "This Robert had issue Robert. The second Robert had one dowghtar, caullyd Sibille Ewias, married to sir Robert Tregoz, a Norman; Robert Tregoz had issue John Tregoz, this John Tregoz married lord William Cantelupe's dowghtar, caully'd Julia, sistar to Thomas Cantelupe, bishop of Hereford, and chancellor to Henry III. John Tregoz had by Julia two dowghtars, Clarence, married to John, lord De la Ware; and Sibille, married to Guliam de Grandesono. Tregoz and Graunson were the last that were men of any greate estimation that dwelly'd in Mapheralts. John Beauchamp, lady of Bergaveny, bowght of De la Ware and Graunson Mapeherault castell. Ther is a village by the castle caully'd Ewis Heralde, in the whiche was a priorie, or cell of blake monks."

Madley Church, Herefordshire.

ANTIQUARIAN and TOPOGRAPHICAL CABINET.

VOL. 9.

Crypt of Madley Church Herefordshire.

Published for the Proprietors, by W. Locke, New Bond Street and J. Carpenter, Old Bond St. May 1, 1802.

MADLEY CHURCH,

HEREFORDSHIRE.

MADLEY is a small village near the banks of the river Wye. In former times a castle existed here, of which the only memorial is the name of Castle Farm. Near the centre of the village is a small cross, consisting of a square pedestal and shaft, with a transverse top. In the churchyard are remains of another of these ancient monuments.

The Church is a large handsome structure, with a low tower, embattled; the chancel end is formed by angles, which give it an almost circular appearance: it is strengthened by butments, terminating in plain pinnacles. Under the chancel is a crypt, or charnel-house, composed of eight sides: the roof is groined, with a plain, circular moulding, which is inserted upon a large angular column, in the centre. A View of this crypt forms the title to the present Volume.

The windows of this Church originally contained considerable specimens of curious painting. In one, on the north side, was the figure of St. Ethelbert, holding a church in his hand, and the queen standing by him, with the arms of England. In another, was a cross, and the figure of a woman, subscribed—Sancta Mil-

burga pries pur———et pur les alms de toutz Chrestiens."

About three miles north from Madley, on the opposite side of the Wye, is the ancient Roman town of Kinchester, of which Leland says—"This towne is far more auncient than Hereford, and was celebrated in the Romans time, as apperith by many thinges, and especially by antique money of the Cæsars, very often found within the townu, and in ploughing aboute, the which the people there call duarfes money. The cumpaee of Kenchester hath been, by estimacion, as much as Hereford, excepting the castle, the which, at Hereford, is very spacious. Pieces of the walls and turrets yet appear prope fundamenta, and more should have appearid if the people of Herford town, and other thereabout, had not, in tyme past, pulled down much and picked out of the best for their buildings."

Engraved by J. Greig from the Antiquarian Topographical Collections, Drawn by W. Tombe.

Interior of Cwm-yr-Eon Church, Herefordshire

[illegible]

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CANNON PEON,

HEREFORDSHIRE.

Cannon Peon is a small secluded village in the hundred of Grimsworth, situated about six miles from the city of Hereford, not far from the road leading to Pembridge. No historical account is to be found relating to this place: the only object worthy of particular attention is the church. The exterior of this building is simple, but the interior has several interesting parts: it consists of a body, chancel, and two aisles; the chancel is separated by a screen of carved wood-work, of several compartments, with pointed trefoil arches. The aisles are divided from the body by massive pillars, with ornamented capitals, from which spring plain, pointed arches. The reading-desk and pulpit are apparently of the same date as the screen, and are highly enriched with a variety of carvings. Many of the pews are of the ancient character, having simple benches without doors, and no doubt of the same age as this ecclesiastical fabric.

The Font, perhaps the most interesting object in the church, is a large mass of stone, standing nearly five feet high: the upper portion is an octagon; the lower part has nearly lost its original form, from mutilations. Surrounding the basin is a band of quatrefoils,

in squares, three on each face: immediately below them are two fillets, and near the centre of the Font is a band of circles, of irregular workmanship, but so much defaced as to render it impossible to ascertain the exact character of the ornaments each circle contained.

There are also a few monuments in the church, but none that claim particular notice.

Engraved by J. Storer, for the Antiquarian & Topographical Cabinet, from a Drawing by F. Depiar.

Newport Castle Monmouthshire.

Published for the Proprietors, by W. Clarke, New Bond St. & J. Carpenter, 168 Bond St. Bilbo-street.

NEWPORT CASTLE,

MONMOUTHSHIRE.

NEWPORT CASTLE stands near the bridge, on the right bank of the Usk. It is a massive structure, but of small dimensions and simple form: the figure is nearly a parallelogram; it is built of rubble, but coigned with hewn stones. In the middle of the side that faces the water is a square tower, which seems to have been the keep, or citadel; it is flanked with small turrets, and contains the remains of a spacious apartment, called the State Room, with a vaulted stone roof. Underneath is a sallyport, leading to the river, with a beautiful Gothic arch, once defended by a portcullis, the groove of which is still visible. At each extremity of this side are octagon towers, one of which, though much mutilated, is inhabited. In the left side of the middle tower are the remains of the baronial hall, with a large fireplace; the windows are of the Gothic kind, and richly decorated. Evident vestiges of numerous apartments are seen in the area, and several chimnies appear in the side-walls. On a slight examination of the Castle, it would seem that it was constructed solely for the purpose of defending the passage across the river; because on that side which faces the water it is provided with three strong

towers, while towards the town there appears only a simple wall, without flanks or defences; but upon a nearer inspection may be discovered the traces of a deep moat, which has been recently filled with earth from the excavation of the canal; this might be a very sufficient defence from the town. There is likewise a considerable plot of ground, formerly called the Castle Green (now converted into wharfs), which was probably joined to the fortress by means of a drawbridge.

The style of the architecture denotes that the present building is not so old as the Conquest; for the arches of the doors and windows are pointed: it must, therefore, have been constructed during the Anglo-Norman period, when pointed arches were in common use.

Tintern Abbey, Monmouthshire.

Published by Rudge & Jones, New Bond Street and J. Harris, Old Bond Street, [illegible]

Tintern Abbey

TINTERN ABBEY,

MONMOUTHSHIRE.

THIS highly-beautiful and interesting ruin, the delight and admiration of strangers from every part of the kingdom, is situated in the upper division of the hundred of Ragland, about ten miles distant from Monmouth and five from Chepstow.

The Abbey was for monks of the Cistertian order, and founded in the year 1131, by Walter de Clare, who dedicated it to the Virgin Mary. This Walter was the grandson of William the son of Osbert, to whom William the Conqueror had given the manors of Wollesten and Tudenham, and all he could conquer from the Welsh. Walter, dying without issue, was succeeded by his brother, Gilbert Strongbowe, earl of Pembroke, whose grandson, Robert Strongbowe, was the conqueror of Leinster, in Ireland. The male line failing, Maud, the eldest of their female heirs, was married to Hugh Bigod, earl of Norfolk and Suffolk.

William, lord marshal of England, and earl of Pembroke, in the seventh year of the reign of king Henry III. confirmed to the monks all the lands, possessions, liberties, and immunities, formerly granted by his predecessors. Roger Bigod, earl of Norfolk, in the

year 1301, also confirmed to them divers lands at Portcassek, Pentick, Modisgat, &c.

About the time of the dissolution the number of inmates were only thirteen, when the estates were, according to Dugdale, estimated at £192 : 1 : 4 *per annum*. Speed says, the value was £252 : 11 : 6. The scite was granted the 28th of Henry VIII. to Henry, earl of Worcester, and is now the property of the duke of Beaufort.

In the ruins of Tintern Abbey, the original construction of the church is perfectly marked; and it is principally from this circumstance that they are celebrated as a subject of curiosity and contemplation.—From Tintern village, in walking to the Abbey, you pass the works of an iron-foundry, and a train of miserable cottages, completely ingrafted on the ruins of the Abbey. This disagreeable and confined approach is not calculated to inspire any spectator with a very high estimation of what he is about to view; but on throwing open the west door of the church, an effect bursts on the spectator of so majestic and singular description, that words cannot do justice to its merit, nor convey an adequate idea of the scene. It is neither a mere creation of art nor an exhibition of nature's charms, but a grand spectacle, in which both seem to have blended their powers in producing an object beautiful and sublime.

The walls are almost entire; the roof only is fallen,

[illegible]

Engraved by J. Byrne, from a Drawing by J. Hogan.

Interior of Tintern Abbey Church.

Published for the Proprietors by W. Clarke, New Bond Street, and J. Carpenter, Old Bond Street, Nov.r 1. 1802.

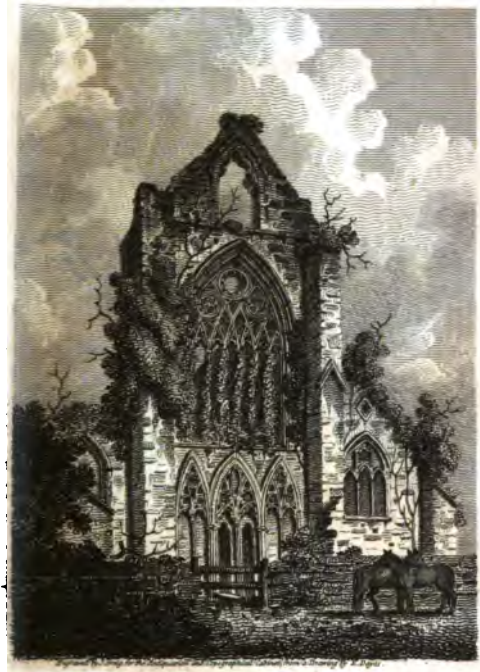
in: most of the columns which divided the aisles are still standing; of those which have dropped down, the bases remain, every one exactly in its place; and in the middle of the nave, four lofty arches, which once supported the tower, rise above the rest, each reduced now to a narrow rim of stone, but completely preserving its form. The shapes even of the windows are little altered, but some of them are quite obscured, others partially shaded by tufts of ivy; and those which are most clear, are edged with its slender tendrils and lighter foliage, wreathing about the sides and the divisions: it winds round the pillars; it clings to the walls; and in one of the aisles, clusters at the top in bunches so thick and so large, as to darken the space below. The other aisles, and the great nave, are exposed to the sky: the floor is entirely overspread with turf. —Monkish tombstones, and the monuments of benefactors long since forgotten, appear above the greensward: the bases of the pillars which have fallen rise out of it; and maimed effigies and sculpture, worn with age and weather, are scattered about, or lie in heaps, piled up together. Other shattered pieces, though disjointed and mouldering, still occupy their original places: nothing is perfect; but memorials of every part still subsist; all certain, but all in decay; and suggesting, at once, every idea which can occur in a seat of devotion, solitude, and desolation.

TINTERN ABBEY.

Castles and abbies have different situations, agreeable to their respective uses. The castle, meant for defence, stands boldly on the hill: the abbey, intended for meditation, is hid in the sequestered vale. Such is the situation of Tintern Abbey. It occupies a gentle eminence in the middle of a circular valley, beautifully screened on all sides by woody hills; through which the river Wye winds its course; and the hills closing on its entrance, and on its exit, leave no room for inclement blasts to enter. A more pleasing retreat could not be found. The woods and glades intermixed; the winding of the river; the variety of the ground; the splendid ruin, contrasted with the objects of nature, and the elegant line formed by the summits of the hills, which include the whole; make, altogether, a very enchanting piece of scenery.

From the length of the nave, the height of the walls, the aspiring form of the pointed arches, and the size of the east window, which closes the perspective, the first impressions are those of grandeur and sublimity: but as these emotions subside, and we descend from the contemplation of the whole to the examination of the parts, we are no less struck with the regularity of the plan, the lightness of the architecture, and the delicacy of the ornaments; we feel that elegance is its characteristic no less than grandeur, and that the whole is a combination of the beautiful and the

[illegible] music is a combination of the beautiful [illegible]



West End of Tintern Abbey.

Published for the Proprietors, by W. Clarke, New Bond Street, and J. Carpenter, Old Bond Street, March Nov.r 1, 1810.

sublime. This church is cruciform, and an excellent specimen of the English architecture in its greatest purity. The length of the nave and choir is 230 feet, their width thirty-three. The length of the transcept 160 feet. The arches and pillars of the choir and transcept are complete; and the frame of the west window is in perfect preservation: the design of the tracery is extremely elegant, and when decorated with painted glass, must have produced a fine effect. Critics who censure this window as too broad for its height, do not consider that it was not intended for a particular object, but to harmonize with the general plan; and had the architect diminished the breadth in proportion to the height, the grand effect of the perspective would have been considerably lessened. The general form of the east window is entire, but the frame is much dilapidated: it occupies the whole breadth of the choir, and is divided into two large and equal compartments, by a slender shaft not less than fifty feet in height, which has an appearance of singular lightness, and, in particular points of view, seems suspended in the air. Instead of dilapidated fragments, overspread with weeds and choked with brambles, the floor being covered with a smooth turf, keeps the original level of the church, exhibits the beauty of its proportion, heightens the effect of the grey stone, gives a relief to the clustered pillars, and affords an easy access to every part.

Although the exterior appearance of the ruins is not equal to the inside view, yet in some positions, particularly to the east, they present themselves with considerable effect. About half a mile from the ferry, down the river, the ruins assume a new character. The grand east window, wholly covered with shrubs, and half mantled with ivy, rises like the portal of a majestic edifice embowered with wood. Through this opening, and along the vista of the church, the clusters of ivy, which twine round the pillars, or hang suspended from the arches, resemble tufts of trees, while the thick mantle of foliage, seen through the tracery of the west window, forms a continuation of the perspective, and appears like an interminable forest.

In surveying the interior of this Abbey church, the eye is delighted, though taste may exclaim against the laboured neatness of the turf floor, contrasted with the ivy-mantled windows and walls. Still

———Meditation here
May think down hours to moments: here the heart
May give an useful lesson to the head,
And learning wiser grow without her books.

— — — — — — —

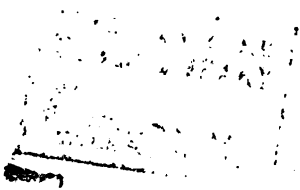
How many hearts have here grown cold,
That sleep these mould'ring stones among!
How many beads have here been told!
How many matins here been sung!

On this rude stone, by time long broke,
I think I see some pilgrim kneel;
I think I see the censer smoke,
I think I hear the solemn peal.

But here no more soft music floats,
No holy anthems chaunted now;
All hush'd, except the ring-dove's notes,
Low murm'ring from yon beachen bough.

Among other things in this scene of desolation, the

poverty and wretchedness of the inhabitants are remarkable. They occupy little huts, raised among the ruins of the monastery; and seem to have no employment but begging; as if a place once devoted to indolence could never again become the seat of industry.—Their cottages they designate the village of the Abbey, to distinguish them from other huts at a short distance, called Tintern: at this village is an inn, the landlord of which keeps the key of the Abbey, and exhibits it to visitors.



Hartley Wharf, Newcastle.

LLANTHONY ABBEY,

MONMOUTHSHIRE.

THE remains of this once beautiful and extensive Abbey are situated in the deeply-secluded vale of Ewais, encircled by the barren summits of the Black Mountains. It was a Cistertian house, founded by Walter de Lacy in 1103, and afterwards endowed liberally by Milo, earl of Hereford. The ruins are venerable and grand, but wholly devoid of ornament: they partake of the character of the surrounding scenery. Not a single tendril of ivy decorates the massive walls of the structure, and but a sprinkling of shrubs and light-branchy trees fringe the parapets, or shade the broken fragments beneath. The area of the church is not very extensive; the length is 212 feet, the breadth fifty feet, and it measures 100 feet across the transcept. The roof has long since fallen in, and a great part of the east end and south side lie prostrate; but the view afforded of the interior, in consequence, is grand. A double row of pointed arches, reposing on massive piers, separate the side-aisles from the nave, above which is a series of small circular arches. Two lofty arches, rising from the middle of the church, still sustain a massive

portion of the tower. The west end is extremely grand and beautiful.

Many portions of this Abbey appear in detached heaps, near the church, particularly a bold arch, now used as an entrance to a barn, and which appears to have formerly served as a principal opening to the Abbey.

The mountains of Ewais, now called the Hatterel Hills, rise above the monastery of Llanthony, and join the Black Mountains of Talgarth at Capel y Ffin, or the chapel on the boundary, near which the counties of Hereford, Brecknock, and Monmouth, form a point of union.

Prior Park, Somersetshire.

BRECKNOCK,

BRECKNOCKSHIRE.

Brecon, or Brecknock, is delightfully situated upon a gentle swell above the Usk, overlooking a fertile, highly-cultivated valley. On one side of the town, beneath the majestic hanging groves of the priory, the impetuous Honddy loudly murmurs, and unites with the Usk at a short distance beyond Brecon bridge.

This county-town consists of three handsome streets, in the most spacious of which stands the town-hall and market-place. The magnificent castle, built by Bernard de Newmarche, in the reign of William Rufus, standing in the suburbs, and isolated by the river, is now curtailed to a very insignificant ruin, and that little is so choked up and disfigured with miserable habitations, as to exhibit no token of its ancient grandeur. This castle was besieged by Llewellyn, in 1233, but not taken. Some broken walls and a solitary tower compose its remains. Within the town are three churches, the most considerable of which is St. David's, a grand cruciform building, 200 feet in length by sixty in width: it has an embattled tower ninety feet high, rising from the centre of the building. A cloister extends from the church to the priory-house. One of the

most fascinating attractions of the town is its delightful walks, the one traced on the margin of the noble Usk, the other, called the priory walk, a luxuriant grove, impendant over the brawling Honddy.

Brecon is built on the site of a Roman station, and was originally called Aber Honddy. It was strongly walled, and had four gates. The principal remnants of its fortifications are to be seen by the water-side.

Brecon, and its immediate neighbourhood, are much inhabited by gentry of easy fortune. It is governed by a bailiff and fifteen aldermen, and sends one member to parliament. The markets are well but not cheaply supplied.

The Monuchdenny, or Penervaen, is a very high mountain on the south side of the town, which, from the quickness of its ascent and pointedness of its summit, bears a miniature resemblance to Cader Idris.

Engraved by J. Basire for the Antiquarian & Topographical Adventurers in Brecon by W. Lewis Jun.

Roman Sculptured Stone, Brecknock

Published for the Proprietors by W. Clarke, New Bond St. & Carpenter Old Bond St. Feb. 1. 1789.

REMAINS OF A ROMAN SCULPTURED STONE,

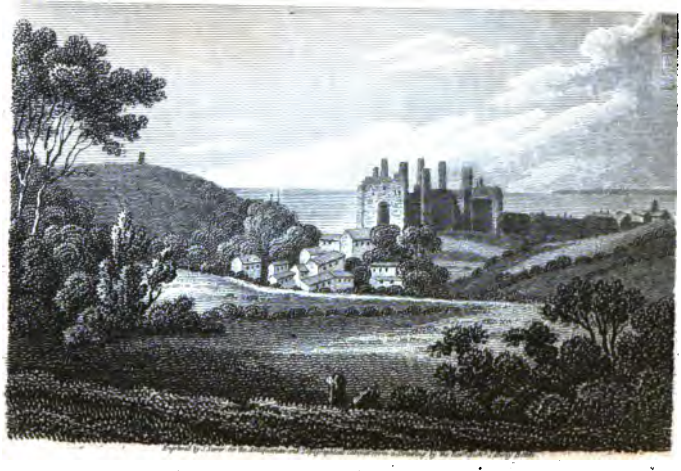
BRECKNOCKSHIRE.

THIS relic, which is called MAEN Y MORWYNION, or Maiden Stone, stands in a lane on the right side near the hedge, passing from Brecon to the Gaer farm: it is in height six feet six inches, two feet nine inches broad, and about five inches thick; the sculpture upon it is much defaced: it represents a Roman citizen and his wife, each having an arm over the other's shoulder; underneath the figures is an inscription nearly illegible. The stone is fixed in the ground, in the same situation that it is supposed to have occupied for many centuries, excepting its having been once disturbed, some few years back, in hopes of making discoveries, but without the least success.

"By an entry" (observes Mr. Jones, in his interesting History of Brecknockshire, lately published), "in the hand writing of the reverend Henry Thomas, late of Slwch, rector of Llandevailog, in this county, in an edition of Gibson's Camden, now in the possession of the reverend Doctor Griffiths of Brecknock, it is stated that the inscription was

ALANCINA CIVIS,
et conjunx ejus
H S *est*

That is," adds Mr. Thomas, "as I take it, *Hic Sepultus est.*" The remains of the inscription on the Stone is indicative of greater length than the above, as given by the rev. Mr. Thomas; and Mr. Jones is of opinion, that it contained not only the names of the Roman citizen and his wife, but also the description of their residence, and other particulars.



Caermarthen

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[illegible] *HERE.*

[illegible] of the most important [illegible] Dover, [illegible] com- [illegible] in [illegible] of the town not [illegible] would admit the streets [illegible] contrasted [illegible] here [illegible] long [illegible] ing [illegible] of [illegible] of the [illegible] nic [illegible] buildings. In [illegible] of [illegible] ascribed, [illegible] to [illegible] who is [illegible] in [illegible] ery [illegible] converted into a [illegible] he [illegible] the town, [illegible] is

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CAERMARTHEN,

CAERMARTHENSHIRE.

CAERMARTHEN is esteemed one of the most important towns in Wales: rising above the river Towey, it commands a delightful view of the most beautiful vale in the principality. The construction of the town is not so advantageous as its situation would admit: the streets are irregularly built and deformed, with the contrasted glare of whitened houses and red brick chimnies. There are, however, many good private houses, which belong to the neighbouring gentry, who resort hither during the winter. Here is a handsome town-hall, built of freestone, and adorned with collonades, of the Ionic order, besides other public buildings. In the chancel of the church is a monument, ascribed, by tradition, to be that of Rice ap Thomas, who is represented in chain armour, attended by two recumbent figures.

The remains of Caermarthen castle, which are very considerable, have been converted into a gaol. Of the walls that surrounded the town, scarcely any vestige is now existing.

This place gave birth to the famous Merlin, in the year 480. He appears to have been a man of extraordinary wisdom and learning, which, in that barbarous

age, drew upon him the imputation of magical practices. Monkish writers have handed down the accusation to posterity, jealous of every acquirement possessed by those without the pale of their church.

Near Caermarthen is an eminence, called Merlin's Hill; near the summit of which is a rock, named Merlin's Chair. On this, according to tradition, sat Merlin, uttering his astonishing prophecies.

The last retreat of sir Richard Steele was a small estate in the vale of Towey: here he lived some time, under very limited circumstances. The farm he possessed is within a quarter of a mile of the town of Caermarthen, and is called Ty Gwyn. The house which formerly bore the sign of the Ivy Bush, was sir Richard's residence. He died here September 1, 1729.

On the north side of the town is the site of an extensive Roman camp: the ditches and embankments are in good preservation.

Llangharne Castle, Carmarthenshire

LLAUGHARNE,

CAERMARTHENSHIRE.

LLAUGHARNE is one of the most sequestered towns that can well be conceived, and is a convenient and economic retirement, but of no great importance as a sea-port. The church is a large handsome structure, and in good preservation. The view from the upper part of the churchyard is extremely rich and interesting. The castle, though neither extensive, nor generally striking, from picturesque disposition, has a noble aspect, towards the town. It was, doubtless, erected as a protection to the entrance of the river Saw, which, at low-water, is fordable.

No account of the origin of this fortress is transmitted to us by any historian, it is, therefore, probably of very high antiquity. It was occupied, and perhaps built, by the Flemings and Normans, on their conquest of these parts of the island: afterwards, in the year 1215, it was besieged and taken by Llewellen. Leland says—"It longid some time to the earl of Northumberland." It is now the property of the Ravenscroft family. The sands in the neighbourhood of this place are bestrewed with many curious and uncommon shells.

About five miles from Llaugharne is a remarkable place, called the "Green Bridge, in Wales." It is a natural excavation in a rock, through which runs a small rivulet, and then disappears, till it mingles its waters with the sea: likewise, at a short distance from the town, is Whitland, famous for its ancient abbey, called the Abbey of White Land. This building is said to have been erected upon the site of another, named Alba domus, which was the summer residence of the great Cambrian legislator Howel Dha.

Part of Conway Castle, Carnarvonshire

Published for the Proprietors by F. Wallis, Bond Street, Nottingham.

CONWAY CASTLE,

CAERNARVONSHIRE.

THIS Castle, which commands, by its vicinity to the strong pass of Penman Maur, the country to a considerable extent, securingthe road to the mountain of Snowdon and the isle of Anglesea, was built by king Edward I. in the year 1284, as a check upon the Welsh. Where the Castle now stands was formerly an abbey of Cistersian monks, founded by Lewellyn ap Gervas, prince of Wales, dedicated to the Virgin Mary and All Saints. These monks were removed to a monastery founded by the king at Manham, in Denbighshire.

Conway Castle is situated in the south-east angle of the town of Aberconway, on a steep rock, forming the western bank, and near the mouth of the river Conway. Its figure is very irregular, being composed of a square, to which, on its west side, is joined a pentagon, each of which forms a court. It was defended by eight round towers attached to the walls, which are very thick, and on the land side was encompassed by a moat. The common entrance is on the south-east side, near the east end, by a steeple and winding path; the passage is now nearly occupied by fragments of the surrounding ruins. There was also another entrance on the north side near the west

end, beyond which was the moat crossed by a drawbridge. Part of the great hall remains; the walls and some portion of the windows are entire, together with nine arches of stone which supported the roof. This fortress was a place of refuge to king Richard II. when he surrendered the crown to the duke of Lancaster, afterwards Henry IV.

It was repaired and fortified for king Charles I. in the beginning of the civil wars, by Dr. James, archbishop of York, at the king's request, and afterwards intrusted to his care, or any one whom he should appoint, until such time as the expenses he had incurred in repairing it should be repaid: but the archbishop was turned out by sir John Owen, a colonel in the king's service; when, getting no redress from the king, he joined the opposite party, and, in conjunction with colonel Mitton, forced the gates, entered the Castle, and took possession for the parliament.

The ruins are the property of the crown, under which it is held on lease by Owen Holland, esq. at the annual rent of 6*s.* 8*d.* and a dish of fish to lord Holland, as often as he passes through the town.

Bedgellert Caernarvonshire

BEDGELLERT CHURCH,

CAERNARVONSHIRE.

The village of Bedgellert is situated in a beautiful tract of meadows, near the confluence of the rivers Glas Lyn and Colwyn. Pennant observes, that its situation is the fittest in the world to inspire religious meditation, amid lofty mountains, woods, and murmuring streams. The church, though small, is reckoned the largest in Snowdonia; its east window consists of three narrow pointed arches; it has a neat roof, in which remains some appearances of fret-work, and a side chapel, supported by pillars and Gothic arches. This church was formerly conventual; it was dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and belonged to a priory of Augustins; they are supposed to have been of the class called Gibbertines, consisting of both sexes, living under the same roof, only separated by a wall: this conjecture is rendered very probable, by a piece of ground still retaining the name of Dol-y-Llein, the meadow of the nun. No remnant of the priory however is now existing.

In front of the village rises to a point Moel Hebog, or the hill of flight, forming a striking feature in an assemblage of the most beautiful scenery. According to tradition, Llewelyn the Great came to reside at Bedgel-

lert, during the season of hunting, with his wife and children; and one day the family being absent a wolf entered the house. On the prince's return, his greyhound met him, covered with blood; Llewelyn being alarmed ran into the nursery, and found the cradle in which the child had lain, overturned, and the ground covered with blood. Supposing that the greyhound had killed the child, he immediately drew his sword and slew him; but upon turning the cradle, he found the child alive, and the wolf dead. He was so affected, that he erected a tomb over the grave of his favourite dog; and upon this spot the parish church was afterwards built, and called from this accident, Bedd Gillart, or the Grave of Kill Hart.

Engraved & Published by J. Greig, June 1st 1804, from a Sketch by J. Prendergast.

GWYDIR HOUSE,

CAERNARVONSHIRE.

GWYDIR derives its name from gwaed-dûr (the bloody hand), in allusion to the battle fought here by Llywarch Hên, about the year 610. The ancient mansion, built in 1556, by John Wynne-ap-Meredydd, was an extensive pile of building, without much regularity, ranged in the quadrangular style, comprising an outer and inner court. What is left of this structure has little to boast as to architectural design, though it exhibits, in some degree, a portion of the splendour of its former possessors. This estate continued in the family of the Wynnes till about the year 1678, when it passed to that of Ancaster, by the marriage of Mary, the heiress of sir Richard Wynne, to the marquis of Lyndsey, and was afterwards possessed by sir Peter Burrell, knt. in right of his wife the baroness of Willoughby, eldest daughter of the late duke of Ancaster, in which family it now remains, under the title of lord Gwydir.

Immediately beyond the house the ground rises very rapidly to the foot of the perpendicular cliffs, forming the westward boundary of the valley, all which space is occupied by a fine wood consisting of furs, oak, sycamores, beeches, and ashes, in the highest luxuriance of growth that can well be imagined, whilst the summit of

the rocks, and every crevice or step in their steep sides is adorned by the spiry spruce fir, the light airy pendant birch, agreeably mingled with the bright foliage and resplendent scarlet berries of the mountain ash. Half way up the rocks is an irregular plain of about five acres, containing the remains of an ancient house, consisting of a magnificent terrace and a chapel; and likewise a few cottages. From the cliffs above, this scene is unusually pleasing and picturesque, and the eye of the beholder is farther gratified by a view over the rich, fertile, and extensive vale of Llanrwst, watered by the winding Conwy, and enlivened by villages, and the seats of the surrounding gentry, which peep from among the sheltering woods which clothe the higher and bleaker parts of this noble scene.

Gwydir and its immediate neighbourhood is very remarkable for the production of plants that are not to be generally found in other parts of the country. On a wall, not far distant from the chapel by the road side, leading to Capel Cerig, grows the plant sedum rupestre; and in very sandy barren places, tormentilla reptans; by the side of a rivulet in a dingle, nant bwlch yr hairn; a mile from the bridge of Llanrwst, and about twenty or thirty yards from the turnpike road leading to Conwy, thlaspi alpestre; in the meadows on the banks of the Conwy, orobus sylvaticus; and in most of the moist grounds on the Gwydir estate, the centunculus minimus,

Engraved & Published by J. Greig. June 1. 1810. from a Drawing by L. Francia.

stellaria uliginosa, campanula hederacæ, vaccinium uliginosum, and rubus idæus.

The town of Llanrwst, which adjoins the Gwydir estate, is situated on the banks of the Conwy, just within the Denbighshire border; the streets are narrow and the

houses generally ill built: the high road to Holyhead passes through this town, which contains nothing very remarkable, if you except its beautiful bridge, built by Inigo Jones.

Engraved by J. Storer & H. Ladbrooke, from a Photographic Copy taken from a Drawing by E. Dayes

Denbigh Castle, Denbighshire.

Published for the Proprietors by W. Clarke New Bond St. & J. Carpenter Old Bond St. April 1. 1808

to the

DENBIGH CASTLE,

DENBYSHIRE.

THIS massive pile, which consisted of several towers, was built by Henry de Lacy, earl of Lincoln, about the time of Edward I. It stands on the summit of a rock, one side of which is nearly perpendicular. The principal entrance to the Castle was through a magnificent gate, having a pointed arch, and being flanked by two large towers, which are now in a very ruinous state. The manner of building these formidable towers is apparent on a near inspection of their remains: two walls were first erected at a certain distance; these served as a case, into which was thrown a mixture of mortar, and stones of different sizes; when this became dry it formed a mass as substantial as a wall of solid stone. Over the Castle gate is a figure of the earl of Lincoln, its founder, in his robes of state, which is still in tolerable preservation: after the death of this nobleman the fortress and lordship came to Thomas, earl of Lancaster, who married Alicia, his daughter. The estate, upon the attainder of Lancaster, was given to Hugh Despencer, the minion of Edward II.; on the execution of Despencer the lordship and Castle reverted again to the crown. Edward III. gave them to Roger Mortimer, earl of March, on whose

attainder and death they were granted to William Montacute, earl of Salisbury: they were afterwards possessed by the grandson of the earl of March, his attainder being reversed in the reign of Richard II. In process of time the estate becoming again by marriage the property of the crown, was granted by queen Elizabeth in the year 1563 to her favourite, Dudley, earl of Leicester. In 1641 Charles I. rested here, after his retreat from Chester, in a tower called the King's Tower, probably in memory of that event. The year following it was in the hands of the royalists under the government of William Salisbury: it was besieged by general Mylton; the investment was made on the 16th of July, and the garrison maintained the place till the 3d of November, when it surrendered on the most honourable conditions.

This Castle is reported to have been blown up and demolished after the restoration of Charles II.

Basingwerk Abbey, Flintshire.

BASINGWERK ABBEY,

FLINTSHIRE.

The ruins of this Abbey stand about one mile east of Holywell, near the north side of the road, in a delightful situation, commanding extensive prospects over a country through which the river Dee winds its mazy course; and including, among other interesting objects, views of Chester, Park Gate, and the Lancashire hills.

Historians are not agreed as to the founder of this religious house. Tanner supposes it to have been founded by Ralph, earl of Chester, about the year 1131; and made an abbey of Cistercian monks by king Henry II. in 1159. It was dedicated to St. Mary. In the twenty-sixth of Henry VIII. its lands and possessions produced a yearly revenue of £157 : 15 : 2; it was granted by that monarch to Henry ap Harry. Part of the church, the refectory, and some other offices, still remain: the whole was built with a reddish stone found in the neighbourhood, and appears to have been an extensive fabric: several of the doors are circular, though the windows have generally the pointed arch. Near the ruins stands an ancient brick barn, probably the granary belonging to the monastery; this barn was some years since occupied by a tanner and maltster.

A gravestone found among the ruins records the interment here of George Petre, son to William, lord Petre, baron of Ingatestone in Essex, who, for his attachment to the Catholic religion, and the cause of king Charles I. left his country, and died at Wexford in 1647, aged thirty-four. It is conjectured he was brought to this place and privately interred, having a prédilection for the spot on account of its supposed sanctity.

At a short distance from the ruins is shewn an oak of great age and much decayed, called the Abbot's Oak; it measures fifteen feet two inches in circumference.

Near the southern boundary of the monastery, part of the great dyke of Offa is still visible.

Neath Castle Glamorganshire

NEATH CASTLE,

GLAMORGANSHIRE.

THIS ancient structure was part of the domains of Jestyn ap Gwrgunt, lord of Morgannive or Glamorgan. This chieftain having joined three other chiefs in a rebellion against Rhys ap Tewdwr, prince of South Wales, A. D. 1090, promised that, to make the union more binding, Einion, one of the chiefs, should marry Jestyn's daughter, provided he procured assistance from the Normans in prosecuting treason against prince Rhys.

Robert Fitzhammon, a near relation to the king of England, and a baron of the realm, was applied to, and he selected twelve of his adherents to undertake the enterprise. They and their army, in 1091, invaded South Wales, and laid the country waste in a merciless manner. Rhys, at this time ninety years of age, met the assailants upon the Black Mountain near Brecknock, and was slain in battle.

The treason having been so far fortunate, Jestyn kept his engagements with the Normans, but neglected to fulfil the pledge he had given to his fellow-traitor Einion, grew insolent in his prosperity, and treated his ally with disdain and derision.

Einion resenting a conduct so faithless and ungrateful, posted after the Normans, and arrived at the sea-shore when

they had already embarked. He waved his mantle as a signal, which they perceiving, immediately returned; and on inquiring the cause of such an extraordinary invitation, received from Einion an account of his usage. He informed them at the same time that an easy conquest might be made of the country, as the neighbouring Welsh princes too much despised Jestyn's treachery to offer him any assistance. The Normans perceiving a prospect of obtaining a fertile country with facility, readily engaged in Einion's views; suddenly invaded, and easily dispossessed Jestyn of his territory.

Fitzhammon then parcelled out the domain, reserving to himself the principal parts and the seigniority of the whole: he then gave the rest of the province, to be held as fiefs under him, to the twelve knights who shared in the adventure; leaving the rough and barren mountains to the share of Einion. In this manner were the lords marchers established in Wales; possessing in all cases, except the power of granting pardons for treason, the rights of royalty.

The lordship and Castle of Neath was allotted to Richard de Granville, brother to Fitzhammon, who founded Neath abbey; and from whom descended the noble families of Granville, earls of Bath, Grenville, marquis of Buckingham, and lord Grenville.

Very little remains of this ancient baronial residence except the wall, the picturesque situation of which renders it an object worthy the observation of the traveller and the painter.

West front of Landaff Cathedral, Glamorganshire.

Published for the Proprietors, by Wm. Clarke Bond, Great Marlborough Street.

LLANDAFF CATHEDRAL,

GLAMORGANSHIRE.

The ancient city of Llandaff is at present only a small straggling village of contemptible cottages. It however still retains evident marks of its former consequence. A church is said to have been here from the first planting of Christianity in Britain, and the Gospel was preached at Llandaff as early as A. D. 186; but it was not till about the beginning of the sixth century that it rose to the jurisdiction of a bishop. Attempts have been made by historians to preserve the names of the bishops of this see, though with indifferent success; for until about the latter end of the ninth century these accounts are said to be very incorrect. Its first bishops were Dubritius, Teileian, and Odoceus, who were all canonized. This church was possessed of very liberal endowments, but was deprived of the greater part shortly after the Conquest; at which time the first edifice was demolished. The present fabric, which was built by bishop Urban in the year 1107, measures, according to Grose, two hundred and sixty-three feet and a half in length from east to west; the distance from the west door to the choir is one hundred and ten feet, from the entrance into the choir to the altar seventy-five feet, and from thence to the Virgin Mary's chapel

sixty-five feet; the breadth of the body is sixty-five feet, and the height from the floor to the centre of the roof one hundred and nineteen feet. Here is neither cross-aisle, middle tower, nor steeple. This church appears to have been a magnificent structure. Some of the door-cases are ornamented with handsome Norman mouldings; others, particularly on the north and south sides, are elegant specimens of the ancient English architecture. There are two towers still standing at the west end of the Cathedral; one of which, much lower than the other, appears of later date than the body, and is said to have been erected by Jasper Tudor, earl of Bedford, in the reign of Henry V. This end of the building serves for the chief entrance into a part lately repaired at a vast expense. This appears like a new building within the walls of the old one. No attention has been paid to the style of the original edifice; so that there is a strange mixture of discordant architecture—Venetian windows, Ionic pillars, fanciful friezes, and varied architraves; while the noble arches and ivy-clad towers of the ancient Cathedral proudly overlook this petty innovation, with a silent, but forcible air of deserted grandeur. Among other absurdities resulting from this species of reparation, it has been remarked, that the Christian altar is here raised under the portico of the Heathen temple.

The window of the west front is of fine lancet-work, above which is the statue of Henry I. and over the beautiful arched entrance is another of St. Dubritius.

Engraved by J. Storer for the Antiquarian Repository, published 1st March 1806, from a drawing by J. Dayes.

Part of Landaff Cathedral Glamorganshire.

Published for the Proprietors, Mr. Charles Baldwin, 1st March 1806.

Within are several monuments of the bishops, and under a window is one which merits particular attention: it represents an emaciated corpse wrapped in a winding-sheet; the appearance of death brought on by a long and wasting sickness, is here admirably delineated. There are two others in alabaster of the family of Mathews, finely executed, supposed to be the workmanship of Cellina, or some other famous Italian artist.

The diocese is governed by a bishop, who is also dean, the archdeacon, who is sub-dean, and twelve prebendaries, with two vicars choral. The choral service has been discontinued for some years, and the revenue very properly applied to prevent dilapidations. Mr. Evans, in his Tour through South Wales, observes, that "the attention which is paid to the neatness of the building, and the decorum observable in the performance of divine service (which is alternately in English and Welsh), do credit to the officiating clergy; and furnish an example worthy not of commendation only but of imitation."

Near the Cathedral stood the bishop's castle, the gate-house of which and a few fragments of the walls are still to be seen,

——the rude remains
Of high antiquity, from waste escap'd
Of envious time, and violence of war;
For war there once, so tells th' historic page,
Led desolation's steps.

The castle was demolished by Owen Glendour in the reign of Henry IV. This ferocious character, from the rank of a private gentleman, raised himself to the sovereignty of the principality. He was brought up at the inns of court, London, and on retiring to his estate at Glendowrdwy, he engaged in a suit at law with the lord Grey of Ruthin for a supposed trespass upon his lands: which suit having lost, he thereat conceived so high a resentment against the whole English nation, that he resolved upon raising a rebellion to resist the authority of the king. He found it no difficult matter to induce the Welsh, who ever since the reign of Edward I. had been subject to the English, to take up arms, and favoured by the distraction of the times, the king being then engaged in a war with the Scots, he persuaded his countrymen entirely to throw off their allegiance to England, and acknowledge him as their sovereign. From thence forward Glendour styled himself prince of Wales. His first enterprise was directed against his former opponent the lord Grey, whom he made his prisoner, and afterwards compelled him to marry his daughter on promise of giving him his liberty, which promise he did not fulfil. Encouraged by his successes, he ventured to march his forces into Herefordshire, where he was met and encountered by Edward Mortimer, earl of March, whom he also defeated and made prisoner; and having ravaged all the country west of the Severn, carried off a considerable booty.

Gateway at Corngedol, Merionethshire.

Published for the Proprietors by W. Jones, New Bond Street, [illegible]

GATEWAY AT CORSYGEDOL,

MERIONETHSHIRE.

THIS venerable Gateway forms an entrance into the court, in which stands the ancient mansion of Corsygedol, in the county of Merioneth, the baronial residence, for many generations, of the family of Vaughan, descended from Osburn, an Irish nobleman, who, coming to the assistance of his kinsman, the prince of North Wales, was, for his gallant services, rewarded with extensive territories in Merionethshire, and first fixed himself in the centre of his new acquisition, at a place called, to this day, in commemoration of his settlement there, Lys Osburn, the Court of Osburn, not far from Corsygedol, to which afterwards his posterity removed, where the principal branch of his descendants continued to reside, till, by failure of issue male in the late Evan Vaughan, esq. member of parliament for the county of Merioneth, the estate fell, in right of the female line, to the late sir Roger Mostyn, and is now in the possession of his son, sir Thomas Mostyn, bart. who occasionally visits it. Buildings in the style of the subject here represented were constant appendages to the principal mansions of this country, and form an epoch in the architecture of North Wales, about the close of the sixteenth century. They

were sometimes constructed as this is, with a gateway to form the principal entrance, allowing room for a carriage to pass through; others without a passage through, served only for a porter's lodge: the upper story of many was appropriated to a dove-cot; but to whatever use they were destined, their external form was nearly similar, and their situation never far from the mansion.

Engraved & Published by Henry Pyle 1780 from a Drawing by T. Compton.

Harlech Castle, Merionethshire.

HARLECH CASTLE,

MERIONETHSHIRE.

HARLECH is in the parish of Llanfair, and is built upon a cliff which overhangs the marsh on the sea coast, near Cardigan bay. The Castle, which is tolerably entire, is a square building, each side measuring about seventy yards, and has at each corner a round tower, to which once were annexed round turrets: the Castle was defended on the east side by a deep foss. According to ancient historians, a castle was built here by Maelgwn Guynedd, prince of North Wales, about the year 530; and Edward I. founded the present fortress upon the ruins of the old castle: it was completed in 1283. In 1404 this Castle, along with that of Aberystwith, in Cardiganshire, was seized by the ambitious Owen Glendwr, during his rebellion against Henry IV. They were both retaken about four years afterwards, by an army which the king dispatched into Wales; and his queen, the celebrated Margaret of Anjou, after his defeat at Northampton in 1460, fled from Coventry, and found here a safe asylum, and a long stand was made in this fortress against Edward IV. by a friend of the house of Lancaster, named Dafydd up Ifan ap Einion; it was however at last surrendered to the forces under the command of William

Herbert, earl of Pembroke. In the civil wars of Charles I. Harlech Castle was the last in North Wales which held out for the king.

From the Castle, if the atmosphere happens to be clear, may be seen the peaked summit of Snowdon, elevated much above the other mountains, the promontory of Llyn, Crickheath castle, and the entire bay of Cardigan.

Near this place is a very curious and ancient monument, called Ceton Arthur, consisting of a large flat stone lying horizontally, supported by three others. The supporters are about twenty inches square; two of them are eight feet in height, and the incumbent stone, inclining to an oval, is eleven feet in length.

About 1692 an ancient golden torquois was dug up in a garden near the Castle, which is described as a wreathed bar, or four rods twisted together, and about four feet long; flexible, but bent in the shape of a hat-band, with hooks at each end, neither sharp nor twisted, but plain, and cut even, of a circular form, about an inch in circumference, and in weight eight ounces. This valuable relic of former ages is in the possession of sir Roger Mostyn, bart. Several Roman coins have also been found in or near the town.

Not far from the Castle is an old roofless building, once the town hall, in which it is said that the members for Merionethshire continue to be elected.

In the winter of 1694 this neighbourhood was much

Engraved & Published by J. Greig Feb. 1. 1812 from a Drawing by L. Francia

alarmed by a kind of fiery exhalation, or *mephitic vapour*, which arose from a sandy marshy tract of land, called *Morfa Bychan* (the little marsh), across the channel, and injured the country much by poisoning the grass in such a manner as to kill the cattle, and firing hay and corn-ricks for near a mile from the coast. It is represented to have had the appearance of a weak blue flame, and by any great noise, such as the firing of guns or the sounding of horns, was easily extinguished. All the damage was done invariably in the night: in the course of the winter sixteen hayricks and two barns, one filled with corn and the other with hay, were burnt by it. It was observed at different times during eight months. The occasion of this singular phenomenon has not been accurately ascertained.

One mile from Harlech is a circle of stones thirty yards in diameter, probably one of those Druidical circles in which was held the Gorseddan, or Bardic meeting. Not far from hence is Cwm Bychan, a grassy dell, about a mile and a half in length, surrounded by black and dreary scenery. On descending into the hollow an ancient mansion presents itself, and ascending on the other side a deep mountain hollow occurs, called *Blych Tyddiad*. Passing upon this rocky cleft, beyond the higher mountains, on a sudden, a fine prospect of all the country eastward bursts upon the view, bounded by Cadir Idris, and other stupendous mountains.

The town of Harlech, or as it is written in some an-

cient documents, Harddlech, signifying a bold rock, is a very inconsiderable place, containing but few inhabitants, although it was once the principal town of this district. It was originally called Twr Bronwen, and afterwards Caer Colhwyn, from Colhwyn ap Tagno, who resided here in 877.

Pyle Priory, Pembrokeshire.

PYLLE PRIORY,

PEMBROKESHIRE.

THIS Priory was founded about the year 1200 by Adam de Rupe, on his lands at Pylle, about one mile from Milford Haven, on the north side: he endowed it with various parcels of land, all confirmed by Thomas de Rupe his son; likewise by charter of the twenty-fifth of Edward III. The founder placed here monks of the order of St. Martin of Tours, in Caldey island. These monks, in process of time, grew weary of the strict discipline of their order; and laying aside the rigid peculiarities of St. Martin, they became common Benedictines. This establishment was dedicated to St. Mary and St. Budoc, and is said to have been subordinate to the abbey of St. Dogmael, in this county; but at the suppression its revenues were separately estimated, and, according to Tanner, the annual produce was £67: 15: 3—it was given in the thirty-eighth year of Henry VIII. to Roger and Thomas Barlow.

The situation of this Priory is extremely pleasant; it stands near one of the creeks which branch into the Channel. The country around is well cultivated.

The village of Pylle is situated a little to the east on the other side of the creek, and to the south is Pender-

gast, at the distance of half a mile. The north is bounded by several ranges of hills, which afford abundance of wood and pasturage. Very little now remains of this religious foundation except the gate-house, and scattered fragments of the walls. To the gate-house are attached several cottages, incorporated with the original building, or erected with its materials.

Grose has given a View of this place taken from the north side, and denominates it "Hubberston Priory," observing, that "it is called by the inhabitants The Priory, but whether for monks or nuns, or what order, and when and by whom founded, are particulars not handed down by tradition, or at least not known by the generality of the neighbouring people." Hence it appears, that all his information on this particular subject was sought in the neighbourhood, and he was led into an error by the proximity of the village of Hubberston. On a similar account some have called it the Priory of Pendergast. Gough, in his edition of Camden, following Grose in the name, has likewise very contentedly consigned this place to oblivion.

Chapel of St. Govans Pembrokeshire.

THE CHAPEL OF ST. GOVENS,

PEMBROKESHIRE.

THIS relic of antiquity is situated on the beach near Milford Haven, not far from Stackpole Court, the seat of lord Cawdor, which is a noble mansion, surrounded with beautiful plantations, standing in a deep and sylvan glen, and though near the coast, yet exhibiting all the romantic beauties of an inland valley.

The Chapel is arched at a considerable height from the sea, in the cleft of a rock, and surrounded by cliffs of the wildest character. It consists of a small building at the east, and connected with the rock, in which they shew you an excavation supposed by the superstitious to be capable of letting in the least and at the same time the largest man, having been endowed, as it should seem, with this singular property by the prayers of some saint, who in the early ages of Christianity being closely pursued by his enemies, fled to this place for refuge, the rock miraculously opening to receive him, and then instantly closing upon him till the danger was over. In commemoration of which supposed miracle, the Chapel was erected, and its precincts considered holy. Nearer the sea is a spring, or at least some oozing of water, possessed (if we can

place confidence in report) of the most wonderful virtues, at once an infallible specific against lameness and blindness, nay, even of efficacy, it is by some believed, to render the idiot sensible.

St. Govens head is a bold and romantic projection, standing out into the sea, and spread around with large fragments of rocks, lying in confused heaps; and near it are some wonderful caverns, bearing a strong resemblance, though in miniature, to the celebrated Bullers of Buchan, on the north-east coast of Scotland.

Rock Pasaro in Coast of Pembrokeshire

ROCK SCENERY ON THE COAST OF PEMBROKESHIRE.

THE rocky scenery, portions of which form the subject of the present View, in a westwardly direction from the highest headland, St. Goven's Point, to another bold cape, called The Head of Man, is peculiarly striking, when seen from the water, and perhaps not equalled by any thing of the kind on the different coasts of the kingdom.

It consists of one vast stratum of limestone, here and there intersected by veins of a reddish grist, mixed with a saponaceous substance, somewhat harder than clay, which, whenever it occurs, is, by time and the constant lash of the surge, separated from the harder materials, and forms curious excavations, some penetrating the Rock for several yards: there is one in particular of this description, leading to an aperture called, from its shape, The Caldron, where the incumbent earth, from being thus undermined, has fallen in, and exhibits, when approached from the surrounding ground, a most tremendous circular gulph of considerable depth and diameter, having its sides nearly perpendicular to the water's edge below. Here the sea, after a storm, when impelled through the narrow subterraneous passage that is connected with it, finds a vent, and boils up to an immense

height in a mass of foam, diminishing or increasing as the waves from without recede or advance.

The stratification of these stupendous cliffs is very various; in some places they seem to have felt the most violent convulsions, being distorted into every possible variation of the horizontal line, from a gentle wave to the herring-bone, that frequent characteristic of Etruscan masonry, and seen to this day in some of the Roman stations of Britain, particularly at Colchester. In others, the original masonry of nature is still maintained in its pristine solidity, and seems to form the only bulwark calculated to arrest the progress of the vast western ocean, which for ages has here alone contended for the mastery, every other substance having yielded to the strength of its wave, its ascendancy being still visible in the vast chasm now opened between the different rocks, called Stacks, from their columnar appearance and their great height from the water and the continent, of which they undoubtedly formed a part some centuries ago, having only escaped the devouring element from being of harder texture.

Engraved by J. Storer, for the Antiquarian and Topographical Cabinet, from a Drawing by the Revd Hatch Sibley, Bath.

Pembroke Castle, Pembrokeshire.

Published for the Proprietors, by W. Clarke, New Bond St. and J. Carpenter, Old Bond St. Oct. 1. 1806.

PEMBROKE CASTLE,

PEMBROKESHIRE.

This noble structure ranks among the most splendid monuments of antiquity in South Wales: it covers the whole of a large mount, which descends in a perpendicular cliff on each side, except towards the town, and is almost encompassed by one of the many winding streams which, fed by some small rivers, penetrate into the country from Milford Haven. The architecture of this fortress is a mixture of the Norman with the early Gothic. The tower commanding the water, the entrance from the town, and the round tower, are the only parts in tolerable preservation: the top of the latter is still covered in with a vaulted stone roof: its height is seventy-five feet; the diameter of the ground floor is twenty-five. It appears to have been divided into four stories: the walls are about fourteen feet thick. There are, besides these, some other fragments of the building worthy of attention. The chapel in particular, though much injured by time, still retains some traces of its architectural proportions. An indifferent apartment in the Castle is exhibited as the birth-place of Henry VII. who is here, with a considerable degree of triumph, styled the conqueror of England.

PEMBROKE CASTLE.

Pembroke Castle is famous in history for the brave defence made by its garrison in favour of Charles I. The town is ancient, but has suffered a decline in proportion as Haverford West has increased in consequence. The buildings near the water-side, and those in the suburbs, are almost generally in a state of great decay: the principal street, which is long and wide, has still a very respectable appearance, though destitute of the air of business, so common in a county town. The produce of the country around is plentiful, which circumstance renders Pembroke a cheap retirement for many families with slender incomes.

Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire.

Published for the Proprietors by W. Clarke, New Bond Street and J. Carpenter, Old Bond St. 1st May 1814

HAVERFORDWEST,

PEMBROKESHIRE.

HAVERFORDWEST, the largest and most central town in Pembrokeshire, is beautifully situated on a declivity, facing the east, sloping down to the river Cleddau, which forms one of the branches of Milford Haven, and is thus far navigable for ships of considerable burden. It was once the capital of the possessions of the Flemings, who settled in this part of the country in the time of William Rufus and his son Henry, and was endowed with ample privileges, particularly by Richard II. who ordains that it should remain ever hereafter a free town and county of itself, distinct and separate from that of Pembroke. It is governed by a mayor and twenty-four common-councilmen. The castle, supposed to be built by Gilbert earl of Clare, in the reign of Henry I. must have been, before the use of artillery, a place of great strength, being situated on a rocky eminence, overlooking part of the town and the river, and formerly surrounded with an embattled wall, entered by four gates, now destroyed. Very little more at present remains of the castle than the keep, which still exhibits a very highly-finished portion of the building, and, from the elegant pointed windows of the whole eastern side

facing the estuary, seemed to have included the chapel, the governor's apartments, and other rooms of state, and is now converted into the county jail.

In the town are three churches, St. Mary's, St. Thomas's, and St. Martin's, besides the church of Pendergast, in the suburb. St. Mary's, the principal church, is large, and consists of a nave, chancel, and north aisle. The nave is lofty and ceiled with oak, divided into square compartments, very richly carved, and similar to those in the chancel of St. David's: the nave is separated from the side aisle by pointed arches, resting on clustered pillars with sculptured capitals of heads and other figures. A very lofty arch divides the nave from the chancel: both the nave and chancel have an upper tier of windows above the arches, some lancet-shaped, and others of a form indicating a later date.

The tower of this church, which is of large dimensions, was formerly surmounted with a spire of considerable height, which added much to the appearance of the town, and is introduced in the annexed View, but has since been taken down, in consequence of the damage it received during a violent storm. The church is a rectory, in the gift of the corporation. There is nothing particular in the other churches, except that of St. Martin's, which is the oldest, and supposed to have been built at the same time with the castle. It has a chancel and south aisle, with a small tower and stone spire, and is a vicarage.

Kilgerran Castle Pembrokeshire

CILGERRAN CASTLE,

PEMBROKESHIRE.

THE Castle of Cilgerran, which is situated on the Pembrokeshire side of the river Teivi, experienced the frequent and desolating vicissitudes of war. In the year 1109 Gilbert Strongbow, earl of Striguil, having obtained leave of king Henry to make conquests in Wales, landed in Cardiganshire, and having conquered the country, built two castles, one at Aberystwyth, another at a place called Dyngerant, which has generally been supposed to be the same as Cilgerran. "In the year 1165 it was taken by prince Rhys, and in the yeare ensuing, the Flemings and Normans came to West Wales, with a great power against the Castell of Cilgerran, and laid siege to it, assaulting it diverse times; but it was so manfully defended, that they returned home as they came, and shortly after making another attempt, they lost many of their best men, and returned without success. In 1199 it was fortified by Gruffydd, son of the valiant prince Rhys. In 1204 it was besieged and won by William Marshall, earl of Pembroke; and in 1215 surrendered to Llewelyn, prince of North Wales."

From the many revolutions this Castle underwent, during those times of turbulence and warfare with which

almost every district of North and South Wales was continually agitated, we cannot expect to find many remains of its ancient architecture. Two round towers, of large and massive proportions, stand conspicuous amidst its ruins, one of which, from the uniformity of its arches, seems to have suffered but little as to its outward form, and from the prevalence of the circular arch, bespeaks a Norman origin. There is a staircase still practicable for ascent to the summit of the tower. A great part of the tower of the gateway fell down a few years ago, the foundation giving way.

This Plate exhibits the interior of the Castle, and gives the best idea of its form; but its picturesque beauty is only seen from the river, whence the beautiful scenery stands unequalled in South Wales, and can only be rivalled by that of Conway, in North Wales.

Engraved by J. Greig, for the Antiquarian Ly. Topographical Collection, from a Drawing by J. Fenton.

Antient Dagger, at Cilgeran, Pembrokeshire.

Published for the Proprietors, by W. Clarke, New Bond Street & J. Carpenter, Old Bond St. May 1. 1810.

THE DAGGER

Supposed to be the Model of those which ministered to the Massacre of the Britons at Stonehenge, Found in Wales.

THIS curious little weapon was found in the vicinity of Cillgeran, in Pembrokeshire, and appears to be the very same which was shewn to the reverend Theophilus Evans, author of a much-esteemed work in the *British* language, entitled "*A View of the Primitive Ages*," first published in 1739, wherein he exactly describes it, agreeing in almost every particular with what is here represented, for he says, "The blade was seven inches long, and more than half an inch wide, double edged, five inches of the seven. The handle was of ivory, of minutely skilful workmanship, having on it the figure of a naked woman, with a round ball in her left hand, and her right resting on her hip; on which side stood the figure of a boy with the sun-beams *(a glory)* round his head: the sheath was also of ivory, and very curiously ornamented." This is a translation of Mr. Evans's description, and is very accurate, as far as his conception of the figures went, but he entirely mistook that of the boy, which is clearly a Cupid, by the side of his mother, having every attribute that ancient mythology usually

invests the son of Venus with, the wings, the bow and quiver. The supposed massacre at Stonehenge, Mr. Evans, in the running-title of his book, calls "*the treachery of the long knives*," and the story of this horrid slaughter is to be found in the most authentic and most ancient Welsh MSS. and even in the writings of those contemporary with Jeffrey of Monmouth, who rejected his fables. The scene of this treacherous plot is laid on Salisbury Plain, which, from its extent and central situation, was well calculated for great national conventions, at which it was not lawful for even the prince to appear armed; a favourable circumstance, which the wily Saxon availed himself of, the better to accomplish his murderous design without suspicion.

The original of the weapon here represented is preserved in the museum of John Symmons, esq. of Paddington House.

The Proprietors of this Work are obliged to John Fenton, esq. the author of an "Historical Tour through Pembrokeshire," for this, and the two preceding descriptions.